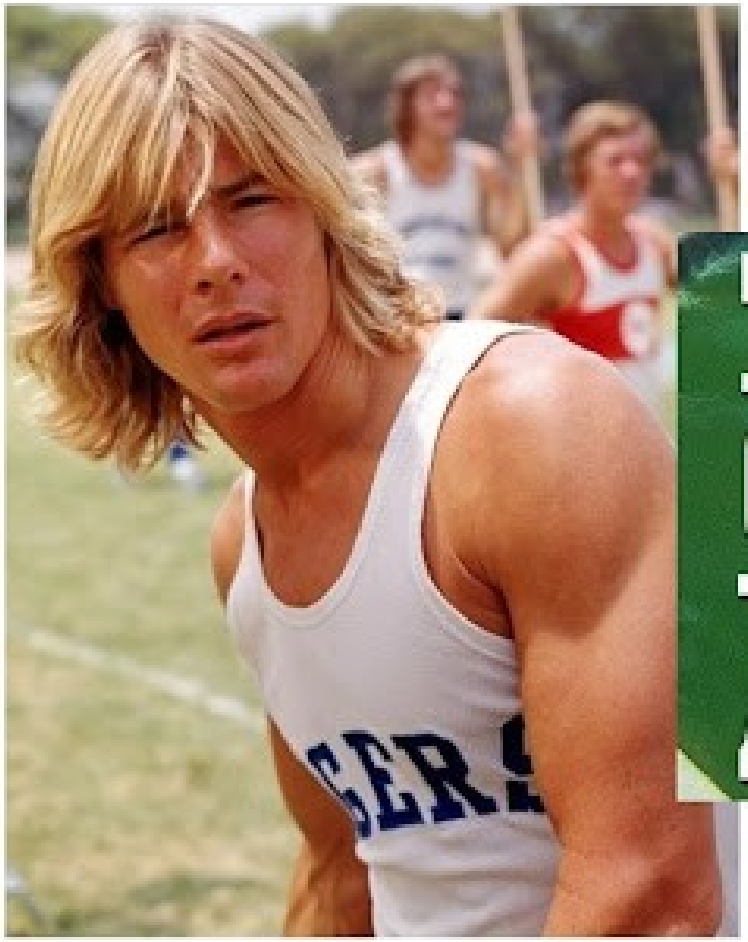
HOW BLAXPLOITATION FILMS HELPED TO CLOSE THE FOX



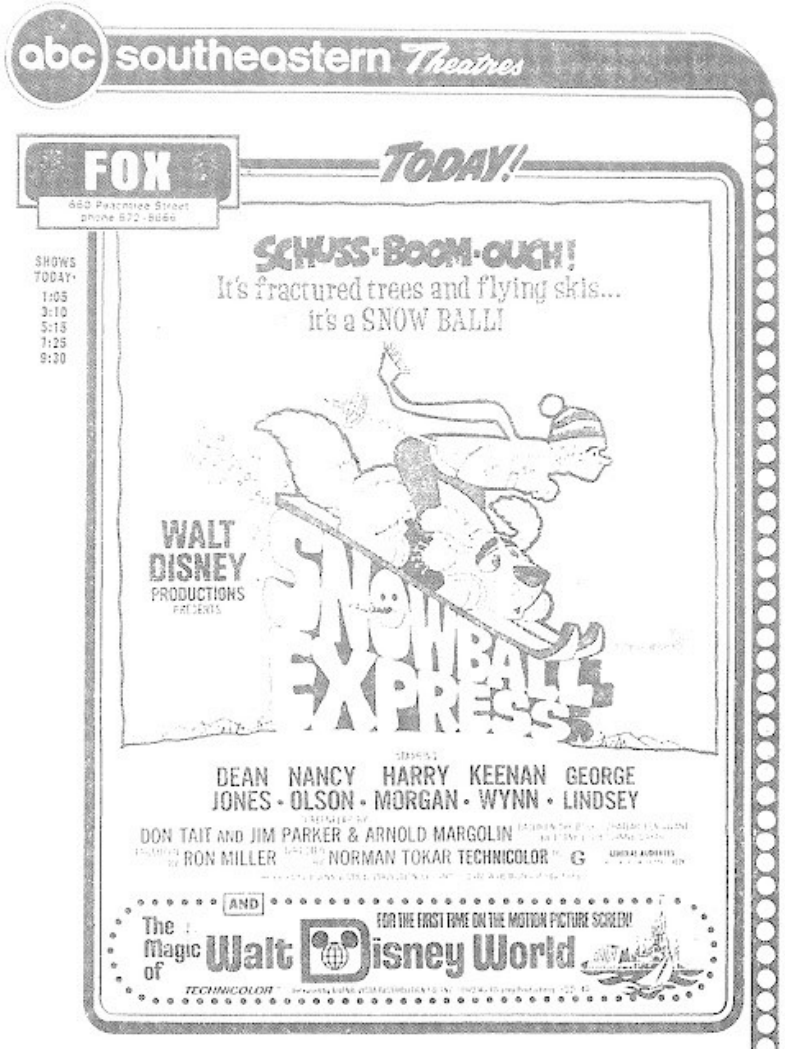
The Fabulous FOX

THE WORLD'S GREATEST ATHLETE

G GENERAL AUDIENCES
All Ages Admitted

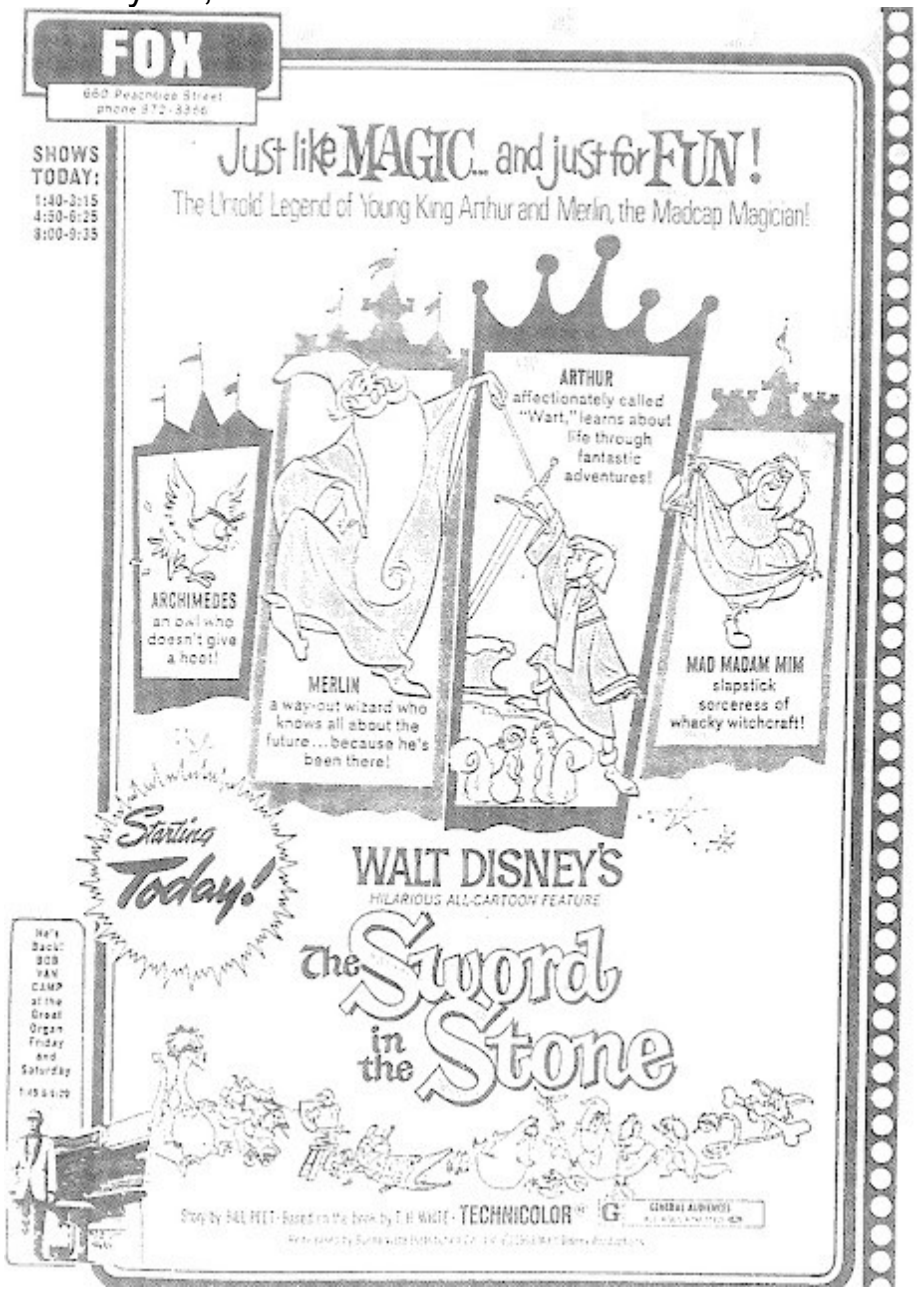
From "The Worlds' Greatest Athlete" to "The Klansman" in two years.

December 28, 1972 Snowball Express



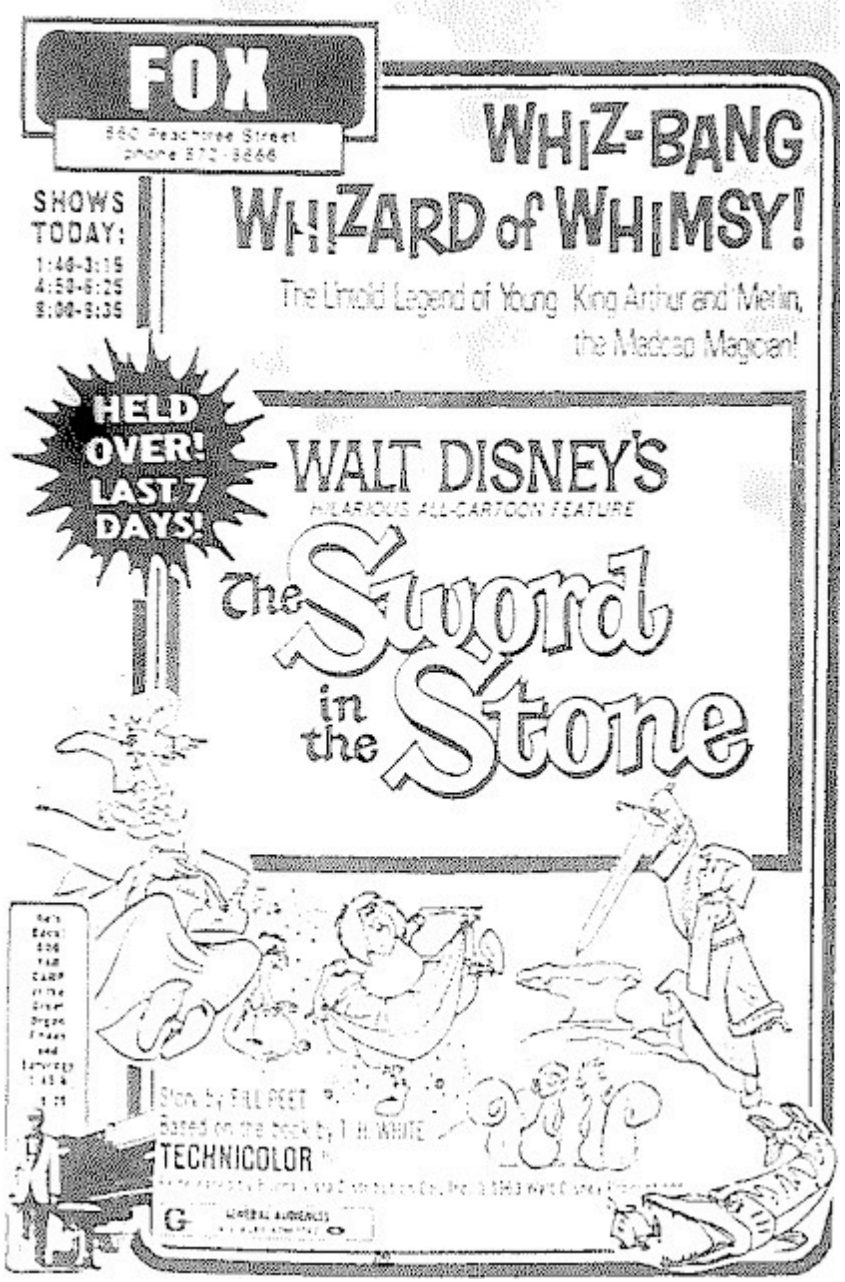
January 5, 1973 Snowball Express (final week)

January 12, 1973 The Sword in the Stone

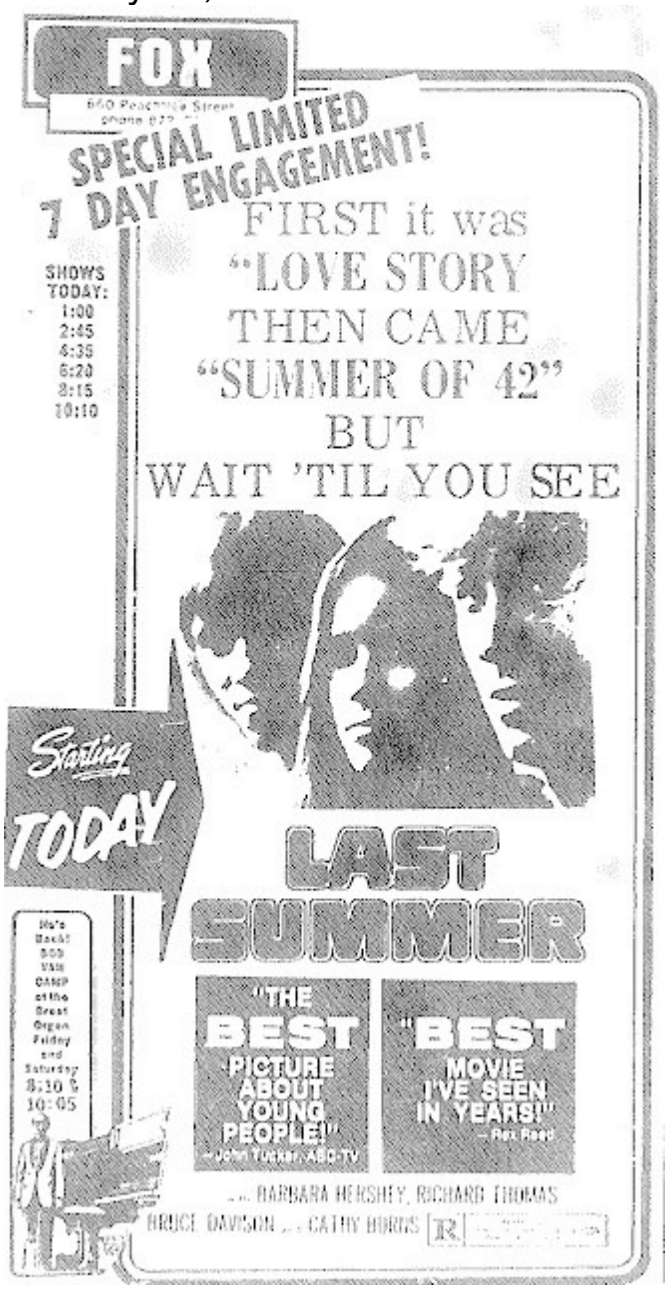


January 12, 1973 Bob Van Camp teaser

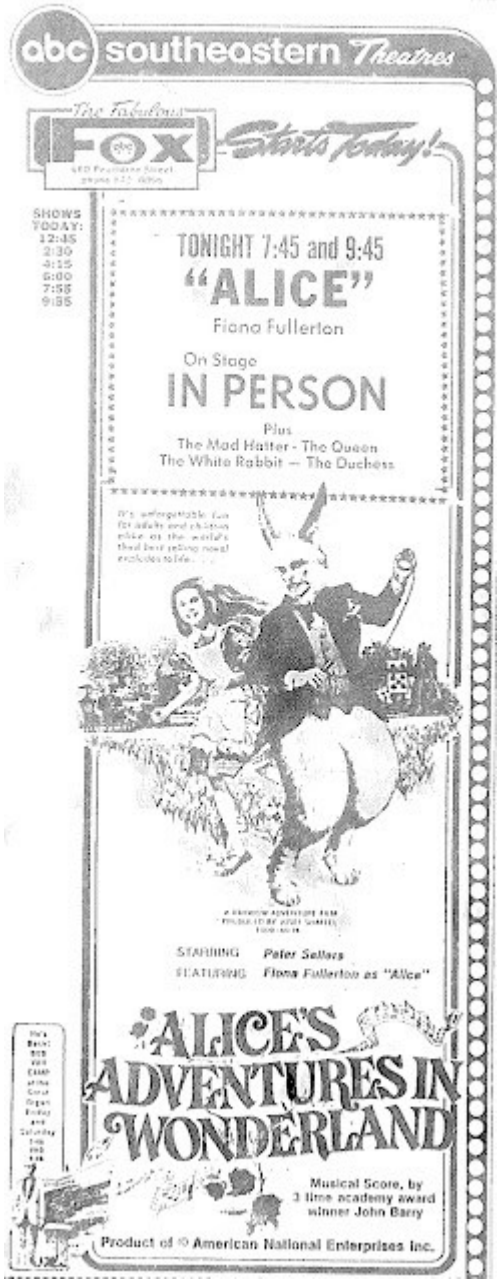
January 19, 1972 The Sword in the Stone (week 2)



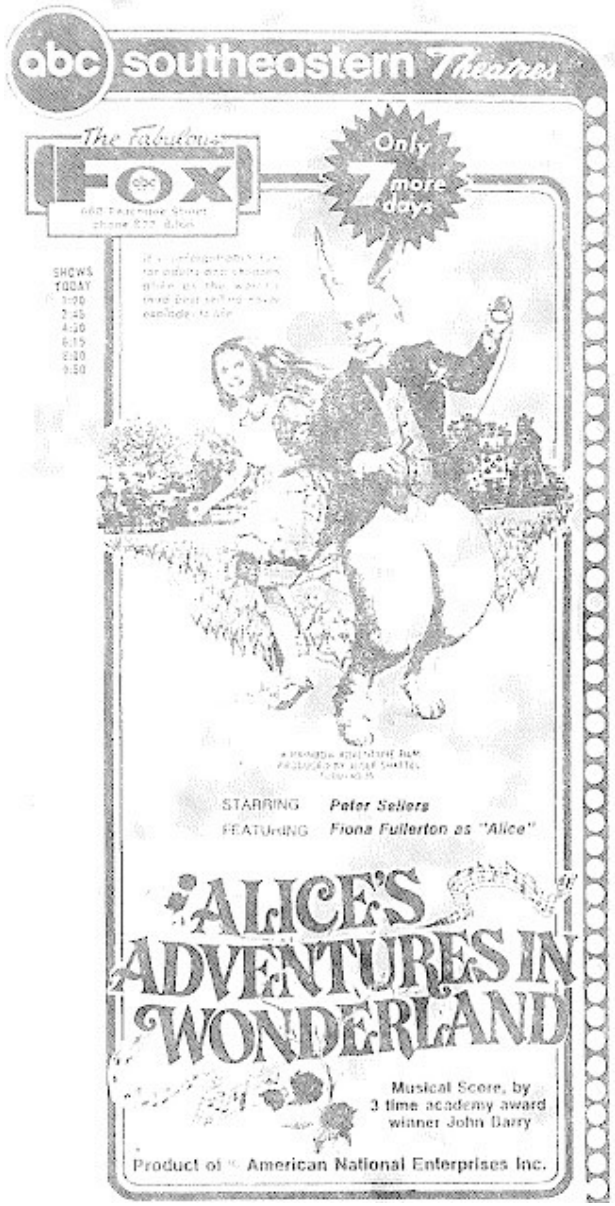
January 26, 1973 Last Summer



February 2, 1973 Alice's Adventures in Wonderland



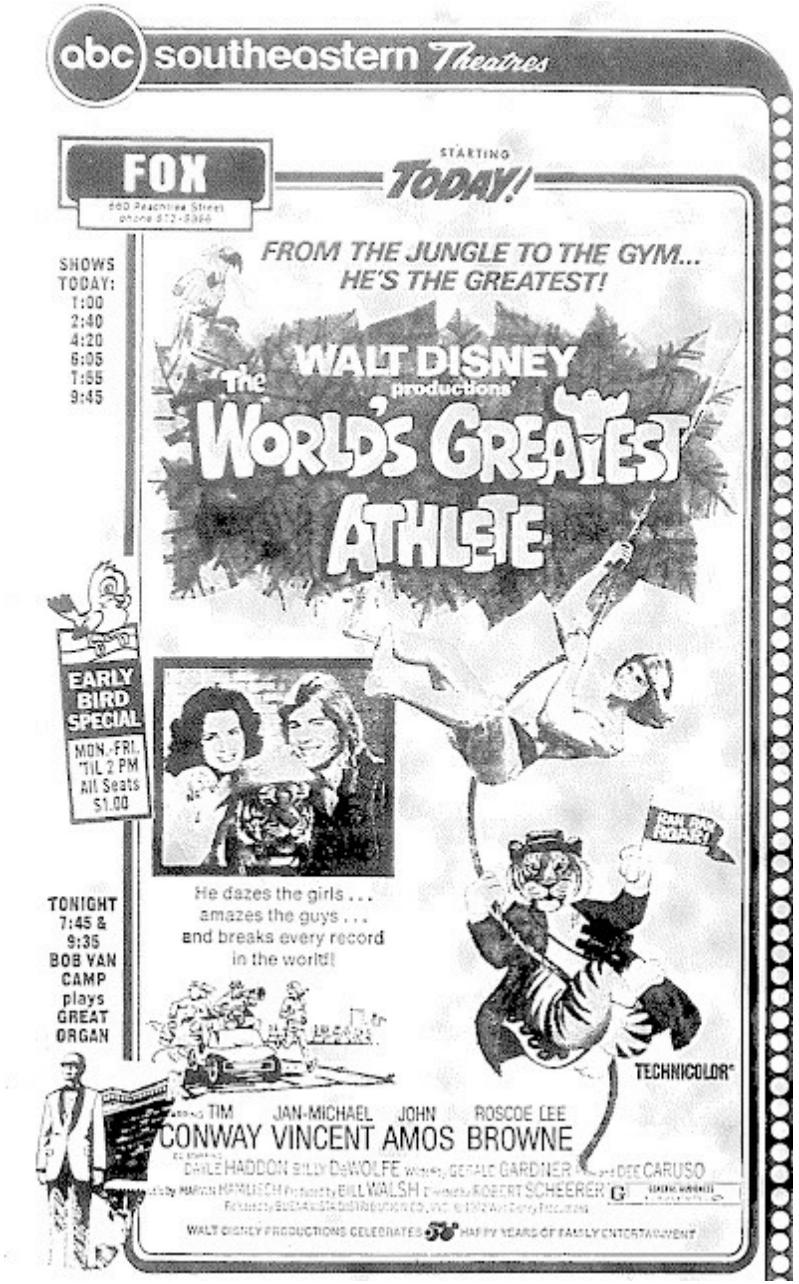
February 9, 1973 Alice's Adventures in Wonderland (week 2)


abc southeastern Theatres
The Fabulous
FOX
Only 7 more days
SHOWS TODAY
STARRING Peter Sellers
FEATURING Fiona Fullerton as "Alice"
ALICE'S ADVENTURES IN WONDERLAND
Musical Score, by 3 time academy award winner John Barry
Product of American National Enterprises Inc.

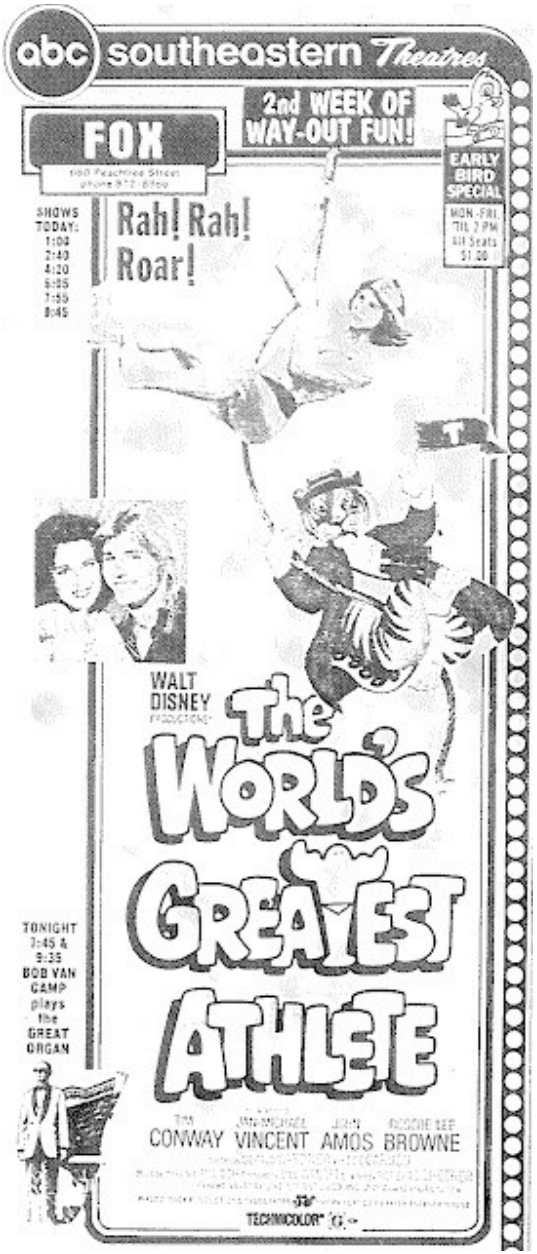
February 16, 1973 The Train Robbers

February 26, 1973 The Train Robbers (week 2)

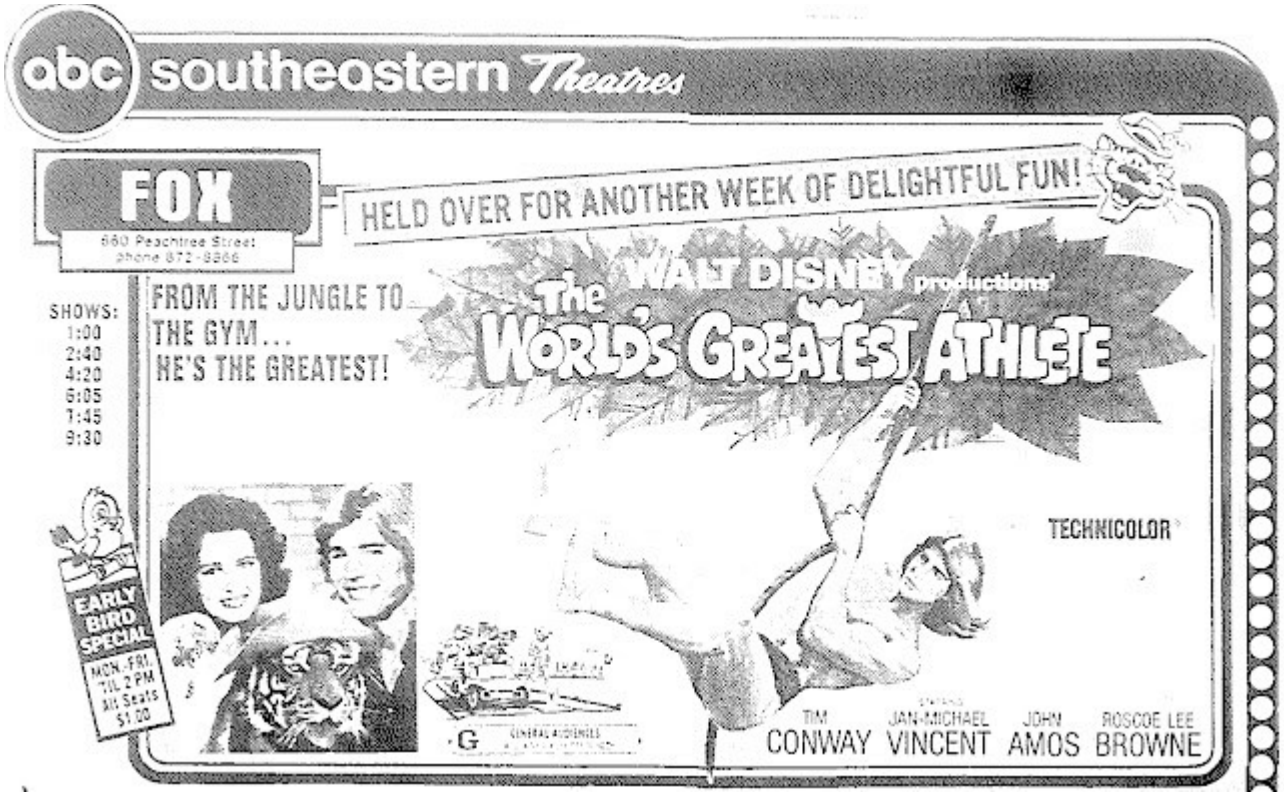
March 2, 1973 The World's Greatest Athlete



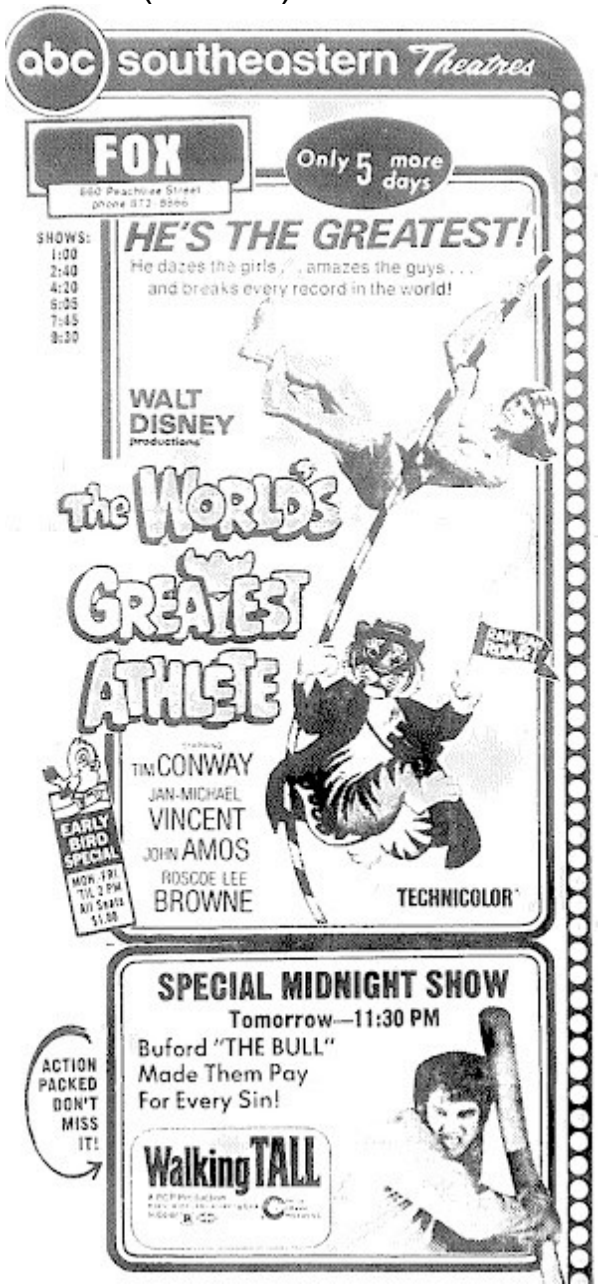
March 9, 1973 The World's Greatest Athlete (week 2)



March 16, 1973 The World's Greatest Athlete (week 3)



March 23, 1973 The World's Greatest Athlete (week 4)



March 30, 1973 Walking Tall

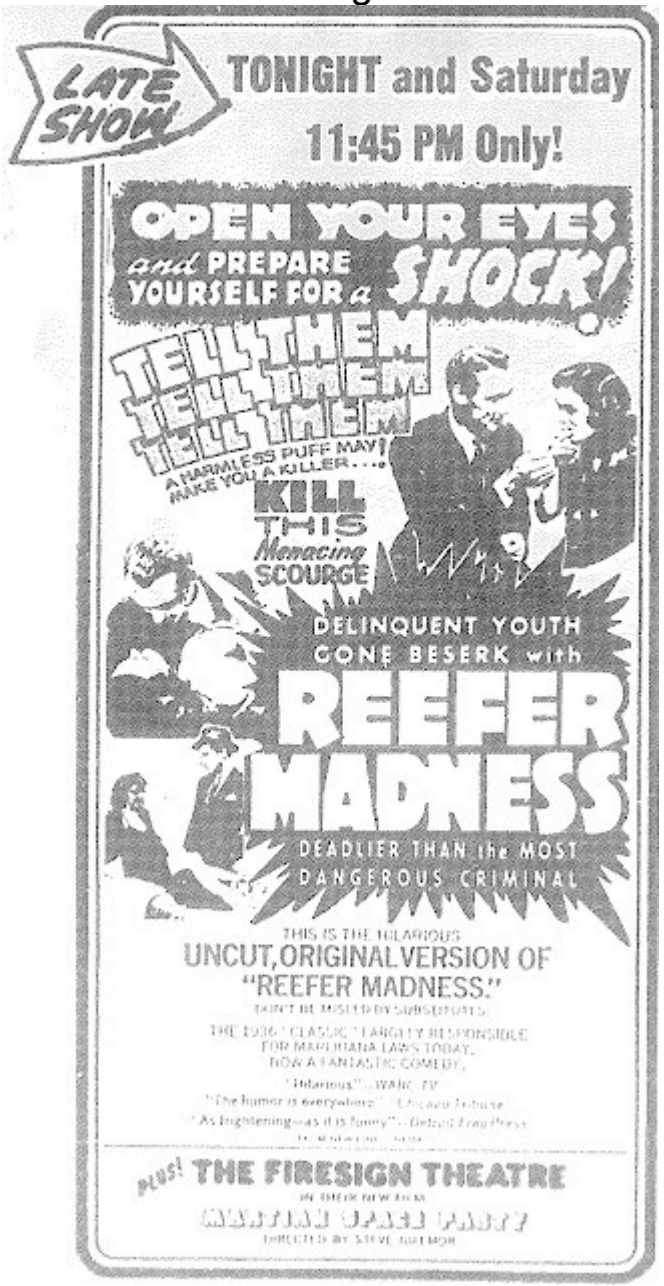
abc southeastern Theatres
FOX
660 Peachtree Street
Phone 872-8866
TODAY!
SHOWS TODAY
1:00
3:05
5:10
7:25
9:40
When was the last time you stood up and applauded a movie?
When was the last time you were so impressed and involved that you spontaneously cheered?
At previews everywhere across the country, audiences have responded with a thunderous reaction to "Walking Tall."
It is the deeply moving, contemporary story of a young man who wouldn't surrender to the System . . . and the girl who always stood beside him.
"Walking Tall" is based on the truth and it isn't "just a movie."
"Might just turn out to be this year's sleeper and emulate the runaway success of 'BILLY JACK.'"
WALKING TALL
★ BASED ON THE TRUE STORY OF TENNESSEE SHERIFF BUFORD PUSSER
"WALKING TALL" JOE DON BAKER
ELIZABETH HARTMAN ROSEMARY MURPHY
R
EARLY BIRD SPECIAL
MON-FRI
All Seats
$1.00

April 6, 1973 Walking Tall (week 2)
"It plugs directly into the current cry for law and order."

April 13, 1973 Walking Tall (week 3)

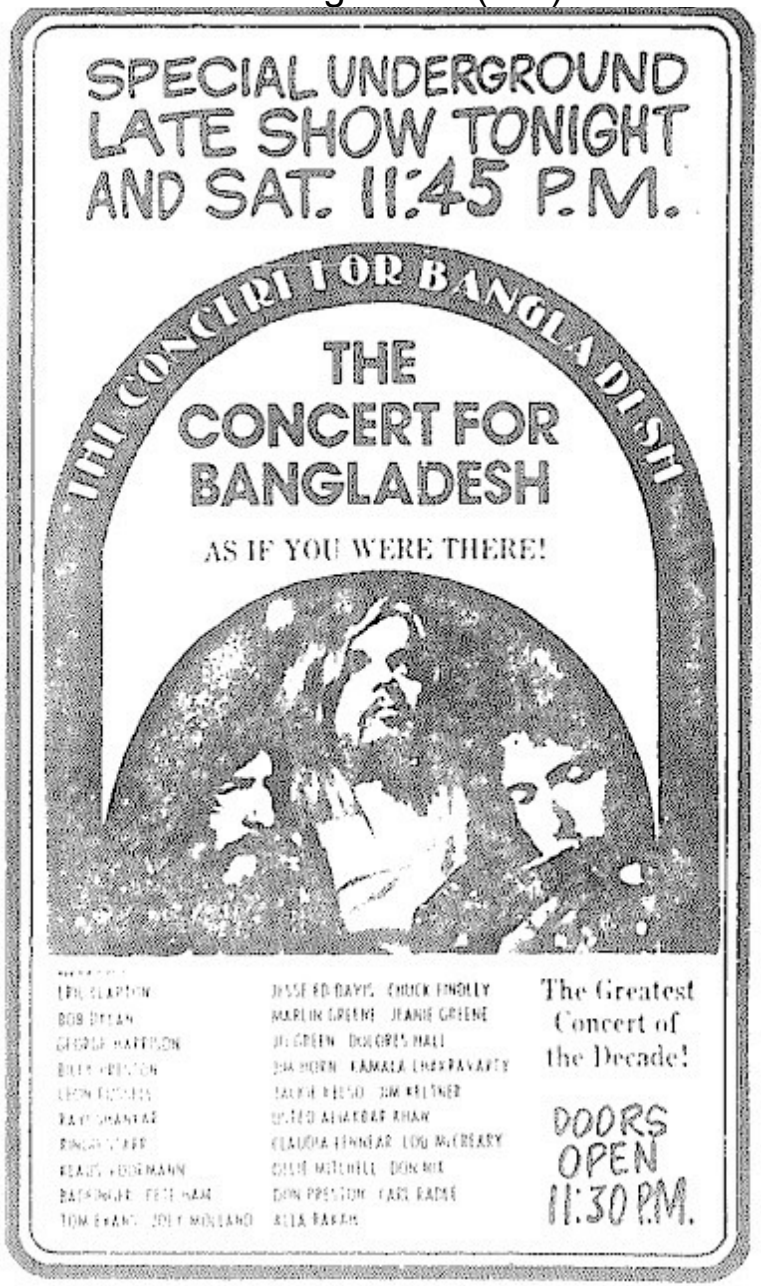
April 20, 1973 Charley and the Angel & Cinderella

April 20, 1974 (Midnight show) Reefer Madness & Firesign Theatre's Martian Space Party


LATE SHOW
TONIGHT and Saturday
11:45 PM Only!
OPEN YOUR EYES
and PREPARE YOURSELF FOR a SHOCK!
TELL THEM
TELL THEM
TELL THEM
A HARMLESS PUFF MAY MAKE YOU A KILLER...
KILL THIS Menacing SCOURGE
DELINQUENT YOUTH GONE BESERK with
REEFER MADNESS
DEADLIER THAN the MOST DANGEROUS CRIMINAL
THIS IS THE HILARIOUS
UNCUT, ORIGINAL VERSION OF
"REEFER MADNESS."
THE 1936 "CLASSIC" LARGELY RESPONSIBLE FOR MARIJUANA LAWS TODAY, NOW A FANTASTIC COMEDY!
"Hilarious" — WABC-TV
"The humor is everywhere" — Chicago Tribune
"As frightening as it is funny" — Detroit Free Press
PLUS! THE FIRESIGN THEATRE
IN THEIR NEW FILM
MARTIAN SPACE PARTY
DIRECTED BY STEVE GETHERS

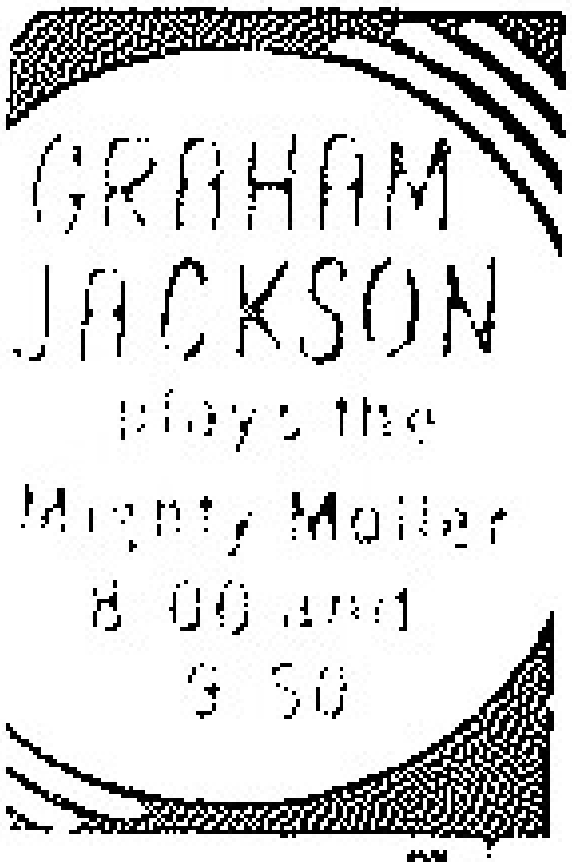
April 27, 1973 Charley and the Angel & Cinderella (week 2)

April 27, 1973 (Midnight show) The Concert for Bangladesh (film)



May 4, 1973 Together for Days (World Premiere)

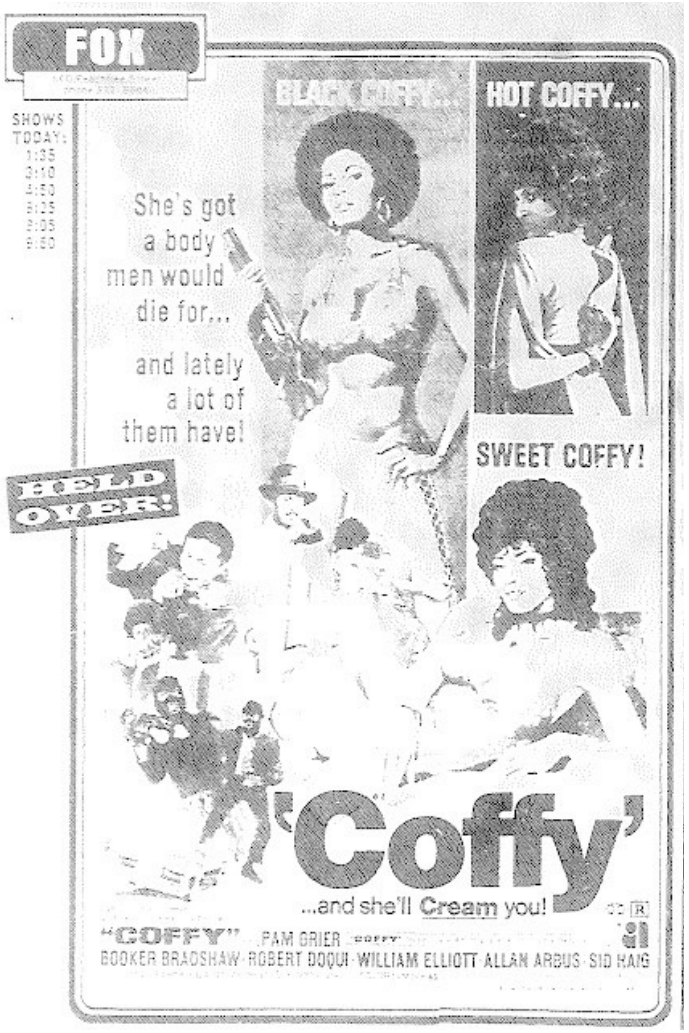
May 4, 1973 Teaser for negro organist Graham Jackson



May 11, 1973 Together for Days (week 2)

May 18, 1973 Coffy
First blaxploitation film at the Fox Theatre

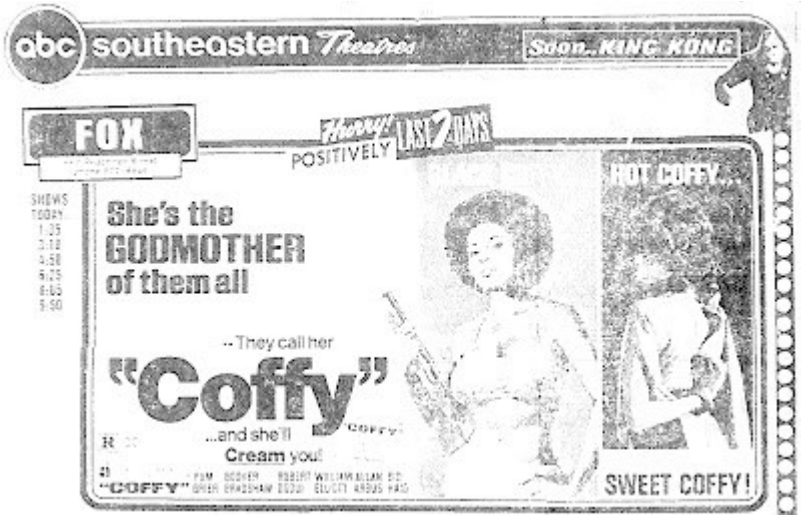
May 25, 1973 Coffy (week 2)



June 1, 1973 Coffy (week 3)

June 8, 1973 Coffy (week 4) Monterey Pop (Midnight show)

June 15, 1973 Coffy (week 5)



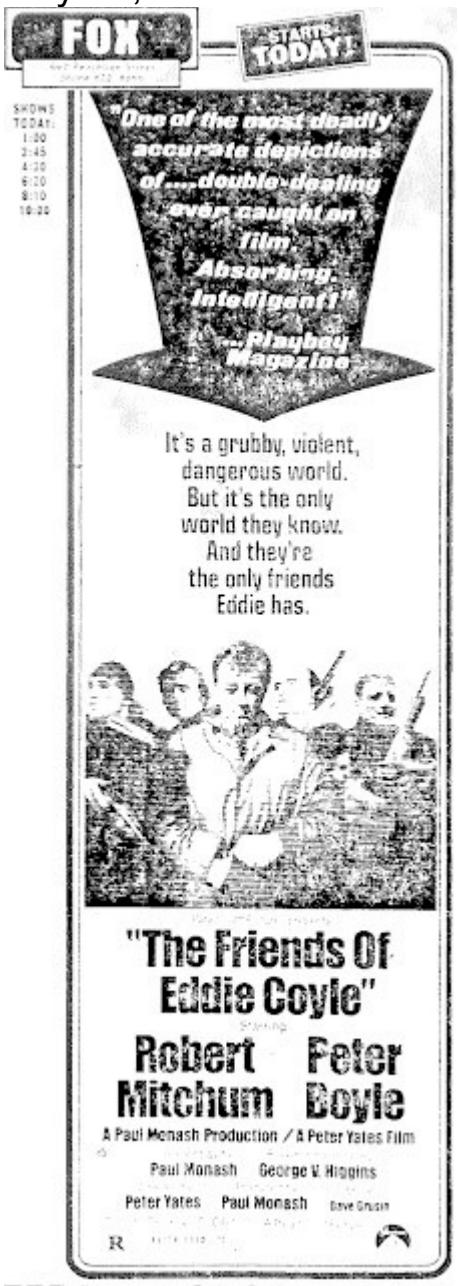
June 22, 1973 King Kong (1933 version)

June 29, 1973 Song of the South & The Aristocats

July 6, 1973 Song of the South & The Aristocats (week 2)

LAST DISNEY PICTURE AT FOX

July 13, 1973 The Friends of Eddie Coyle

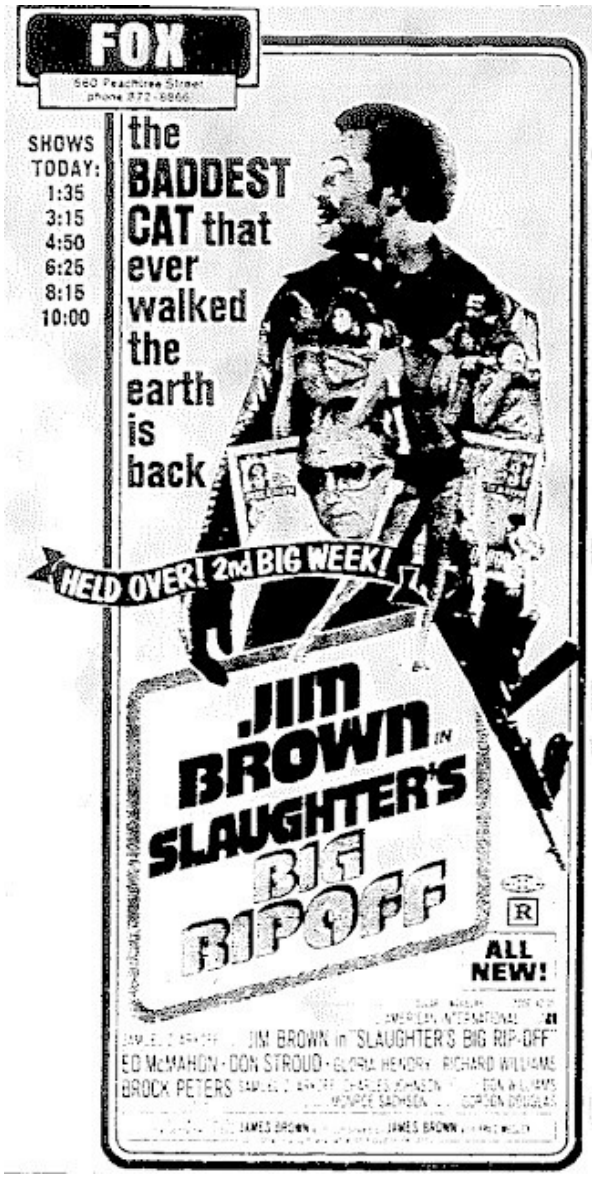

FOX
STARTS TODAY!
SHOWS TODAY:
1:00
3:45
4:30
6:20
8:10
10:20
"One of the most deadly accurate depictions of ...double-dealing ever caught on film. Absorbing. Intelligent!"
...Playboy Magazine
It's a grubby, violent, dangerous world. But it's the only world they know. And they're the only friends Eddie has.
"The Friends Of Eddie Coyle"
Robert Mitchum
Peter Boyle
A Paul Monash Production / A Peter Yates Film
Paul Monash George V. Higgins
Peter Yates Paul Monash
R

July 20, 1973 The Friends of Eddie Coyle (week 2)

FOX
BIG BAD BOB is back in the best performance of his career!
"STRONG, REALISTIC AND TOTALLY ABSORBING!"
"ROBERT MITCHUM GIVES A TAUT AND TERSE PORTRAIT OF THE AGING HOOD!"
"ONE OF THE MOST DEADLY ACCURATE DEPICTIONS OF UNDERWORLD DOUBLE-DEALING EVER CAUGHT ON FILM! ABSORBING, INTELLIGENT!"
HELD OVER! LAST 2 DAYS
It's a grubby, violent, dangerous world. But it's the only world they know. And they're the only friends Eddie has.
Robert Mitchum
Peter Boyle
"The Friends Of Eddie Coyle"

July 27, 1973 Slaughter's Big Rip Off

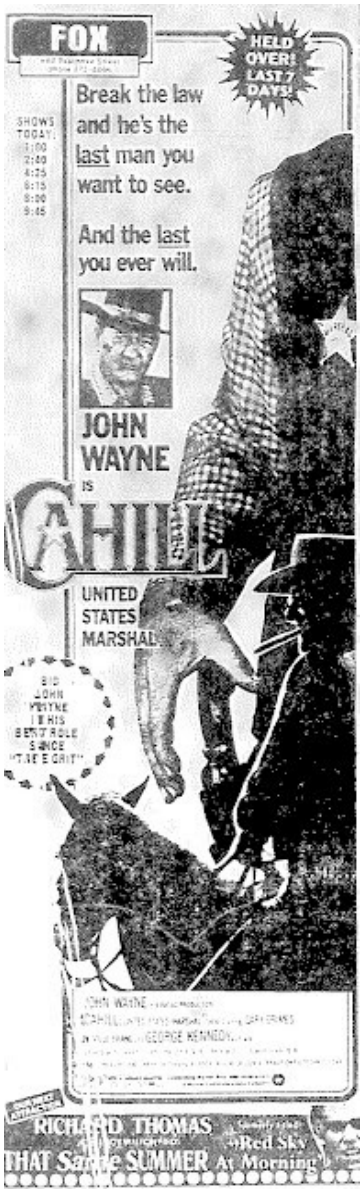
August 3, 1972 Slaughter's Big Rip Off (week 2)



August 10, 1973 Slaughter's Bug Rip Off (week 3)

August 17, 1973 Cahill

August 24, 1973 Cahill (week 2)



August 31, 1973 That Same Summer

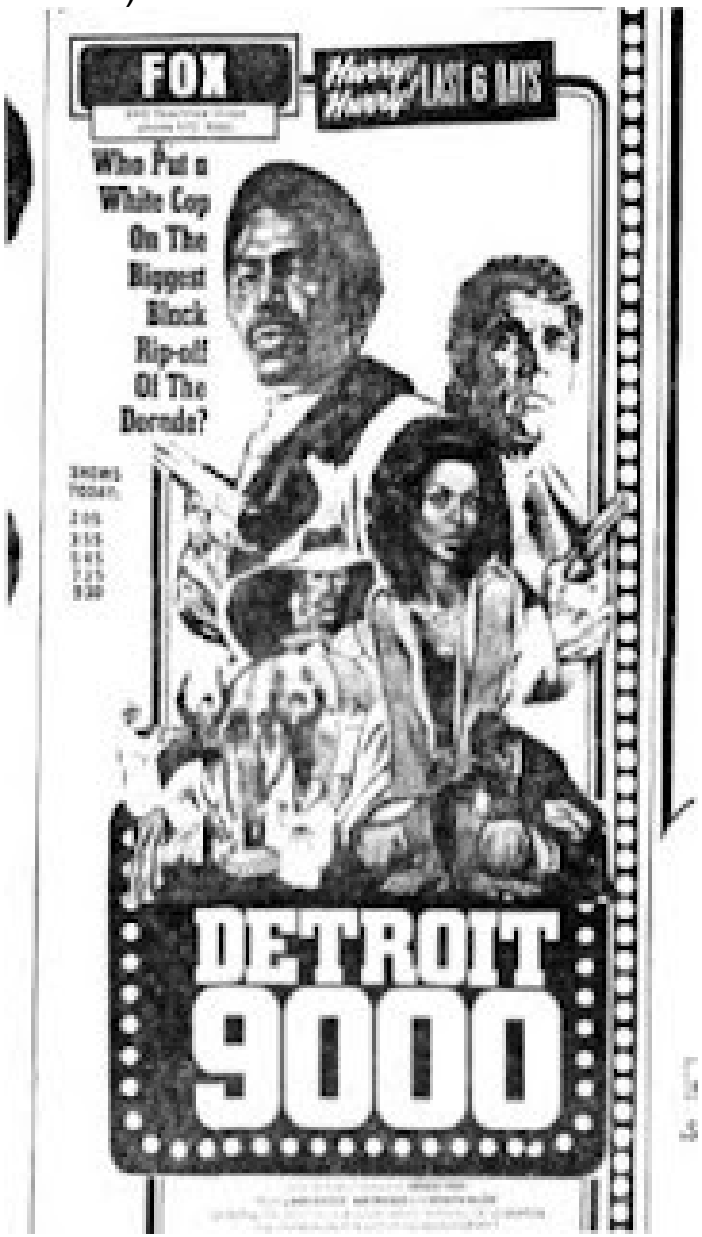
FOX
STARTS TODAY!
SHOWS TODAY
1:50
3:45
5:40
7:35
9:30
While Benjy, Oscy and Hermie Were Living A "Summer of '42"
JOHN BOY and CATHY Were Finding Each Other —And Themselves!
Rex Reed
"More Romantic Than LOVE STORY And Superior As A Film."
—LOS ANGELES HERALD-EXAMINER
Special 7 Day Engagement
RICHARD THOMAS
JOHN BOY WALTON FINDS
CATHY BURNS
THAT Same SUMMER
Richard Brielford's Best-Seller About Young Love And Young People Growing Up
formerly titled
"Red Sky At Morning"
BOB VAN CAMP PLAYS THE GREAT ORGAN TONIGHT 7:35 AND 9:30
HEAR THESE OLDIES FROM THE 40's!
"Don't Sit Under The Apple Tree" by THE ANDREWS SISTERS
"Paper Doll" by THE MILLS BROTHERS
"Oh Johnny, Oh Johnny"
PG

September 7, 1973 Atlanta Film Festival

September 14, 1973 Atlanta Film Festival (week 2)

September 14, 1973 Detroit 9000

September 28, 1973 Detroit 9000 (week 3)



October 4, 1973 The General with Lee Erwin at the organ

A SILENT FILM LIKE
YOU NEVER HEARD BEFORE!
2 performances only —
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4th

THE FABULOUS FOX THEATRE PRESENTS....

"THE GENERAL"
starring
BUSTER KEATON

ORDER TICKETS NOW BY MAIL!

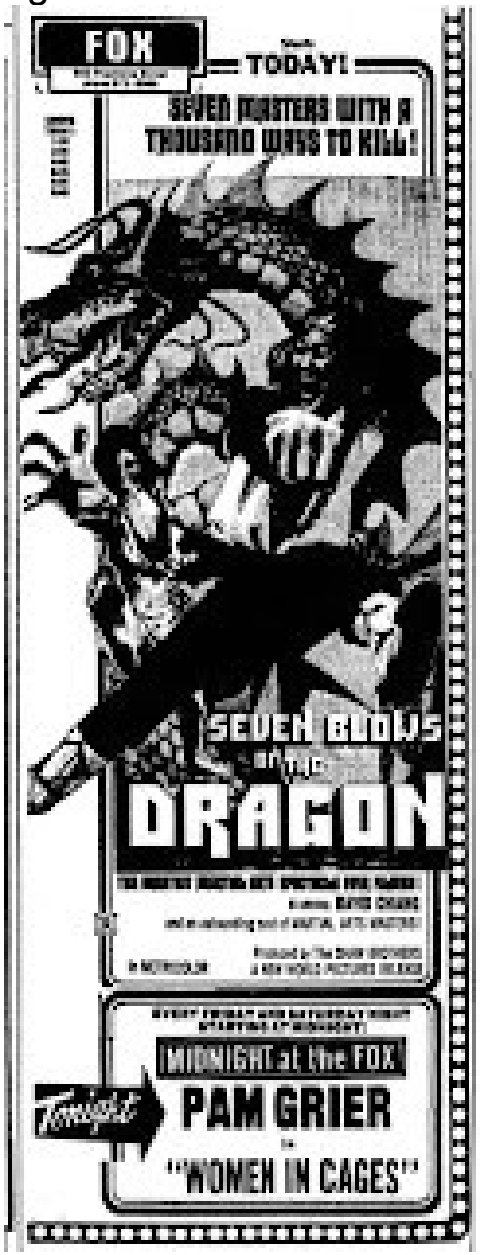
FOX THEATRE
660 Peachtree St. N.E. Atlanta 30308

October 5, 1973 Superfly

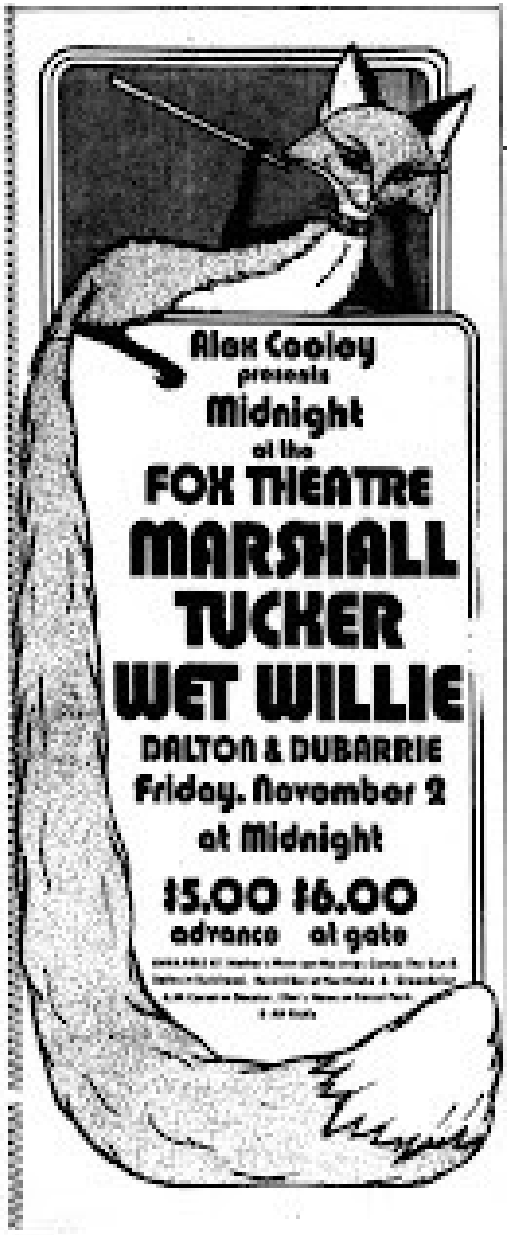
October 11, 1973 They Call me Trinity

October 18, 1973 They Call me Trinity (week 2)

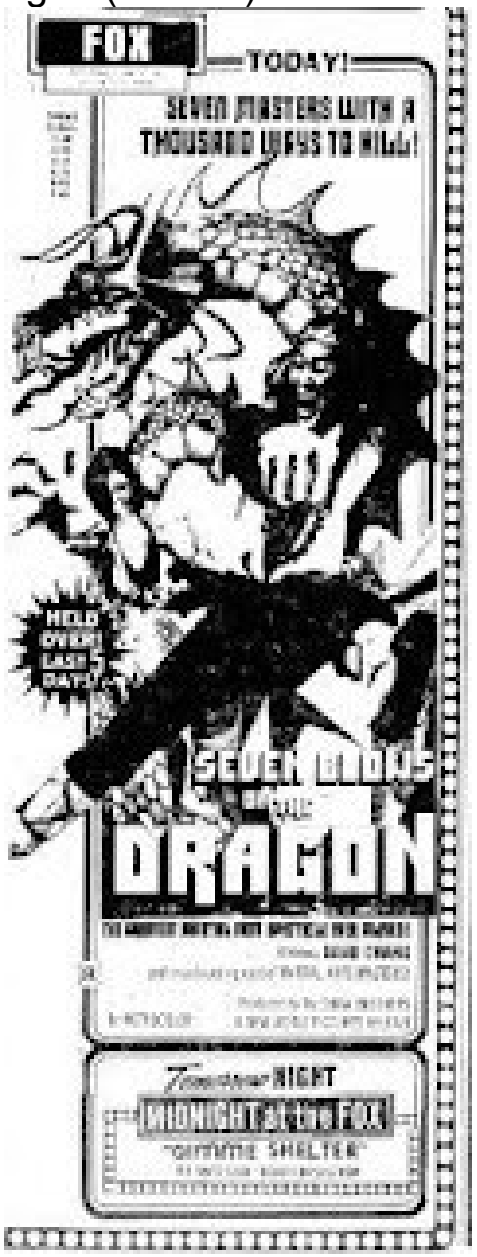
October 26, 1973 Seven Blows of the Dragon



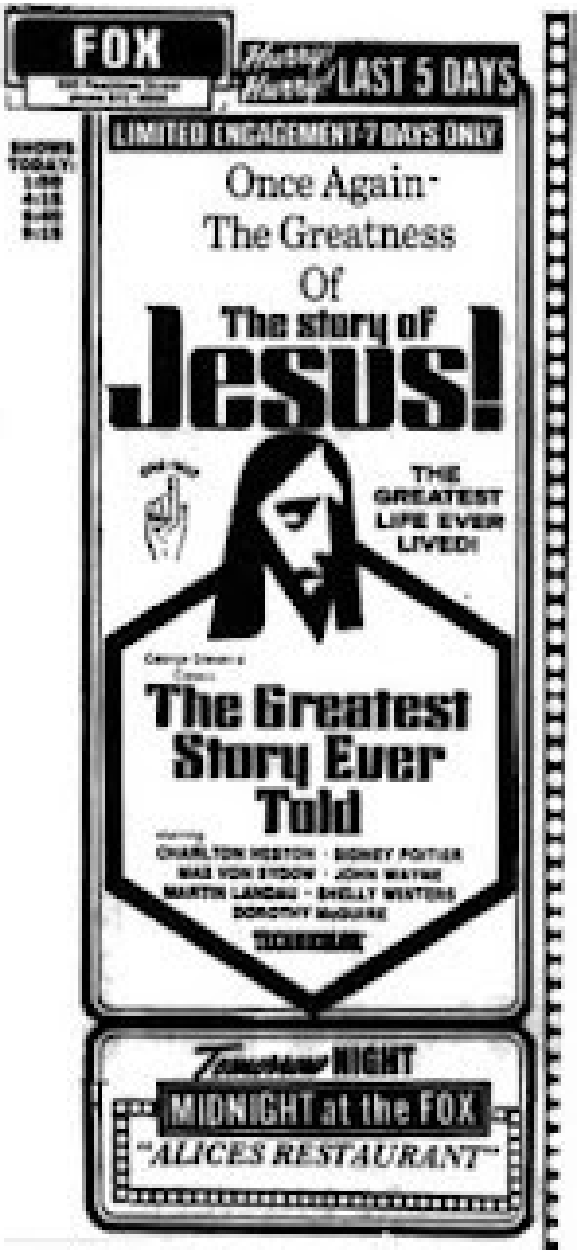
November 2, 1973 LIVE SHOW Marshall Tucker



November 2, 1973 Seven Blows of the Dragon (week 2)

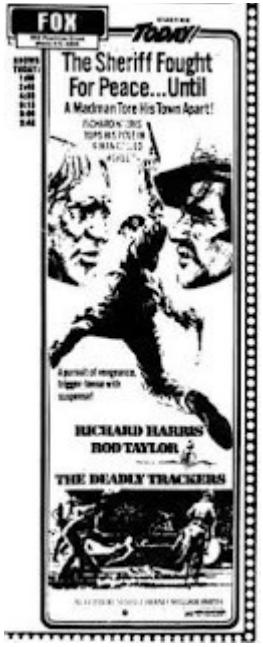


November 9, 1973 The Story of Jesus



November 16, 1973 black Caesar

November 21, 1973 The Deadly Trackers

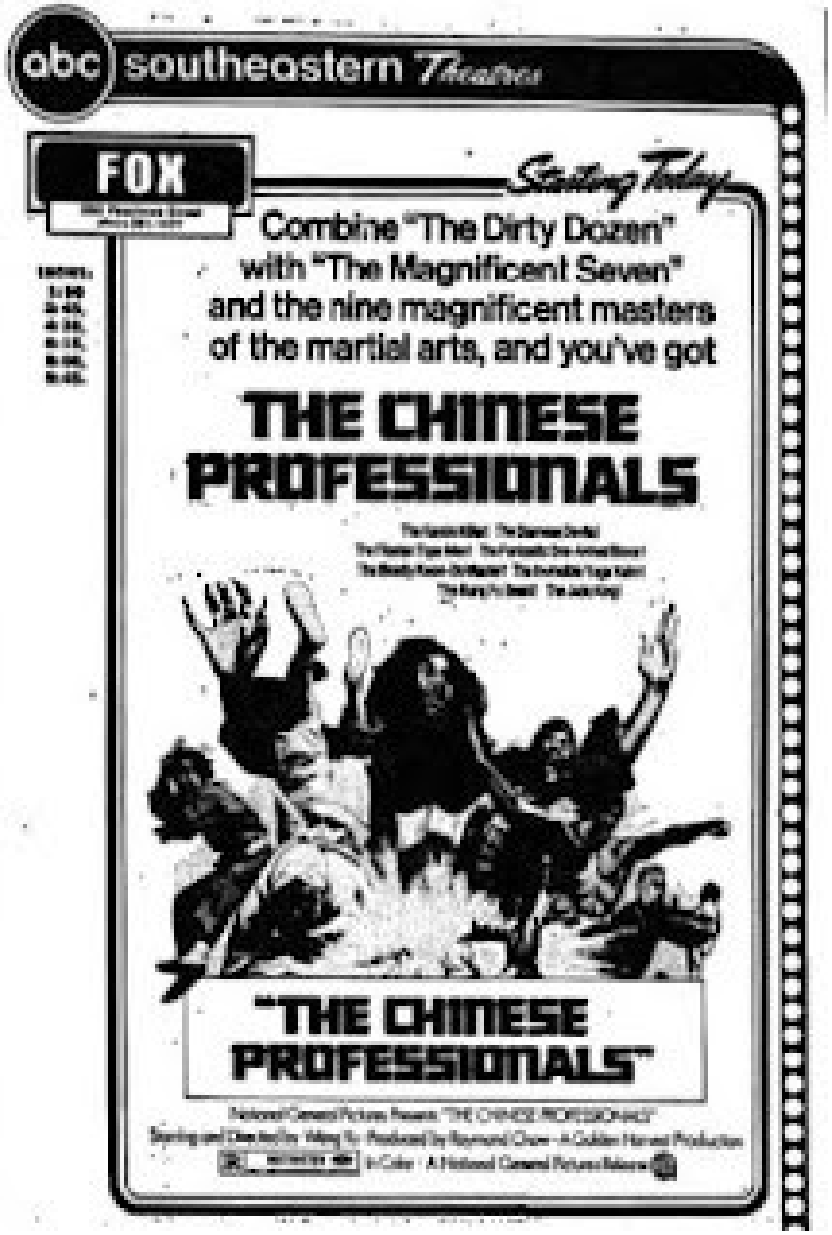


November 30, 1973 Enter the Dragon

December 8, 1973 Enter the Dragon (week 2)

December 14, 1973 The Poseidon Adventure

December 21, 1973 The Chinese Professionals

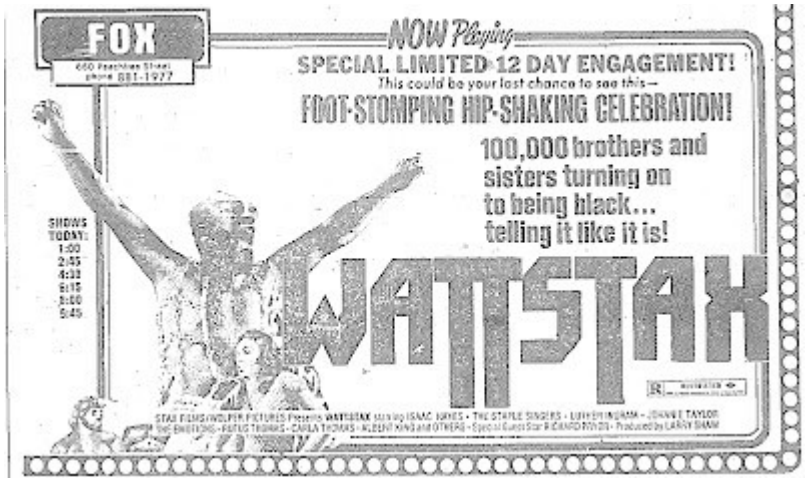


December 27, 1973 LIVE SHOW REO Speedwagon

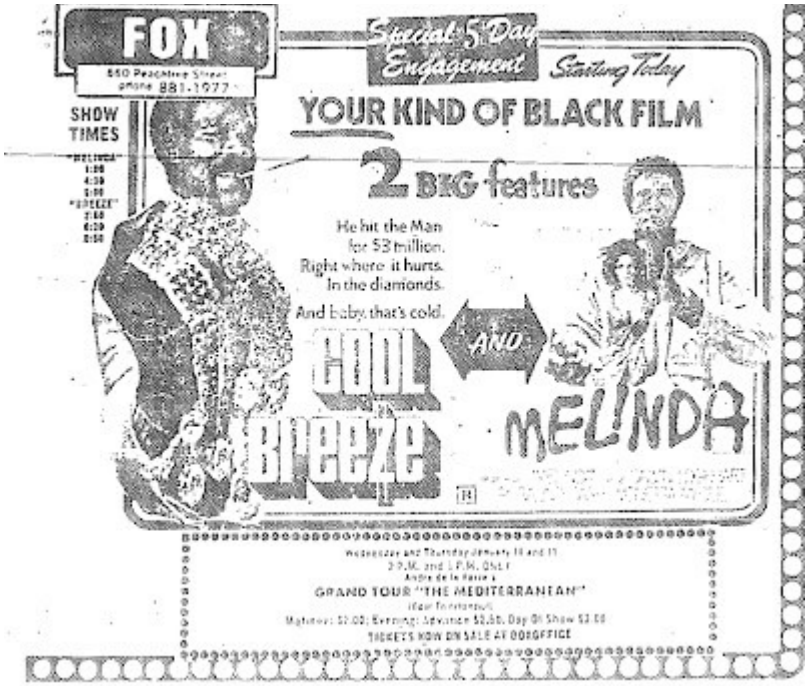
December 28, 1973 The Chinese Professionals (week 2)

FINAL 7 DAYS!
FOX
MAKE WAY FOR THE CHINESE PROFESSIONALS!
NINE MAGNIFICENT MASTERS OF MARTIAL ARTS TEAR THE SCREEN APART!
The Kung Fu Beast!
The Karate Killer!
The Siamese Devils!
The Tibetan Tiger Man!
The Bloody Kwan-Do Master!
The Judo King!
The Invincible Yoga Kahn!
The Fantastic One-Armed Boxer!
"THE CHINESE PROFESSIONALS"

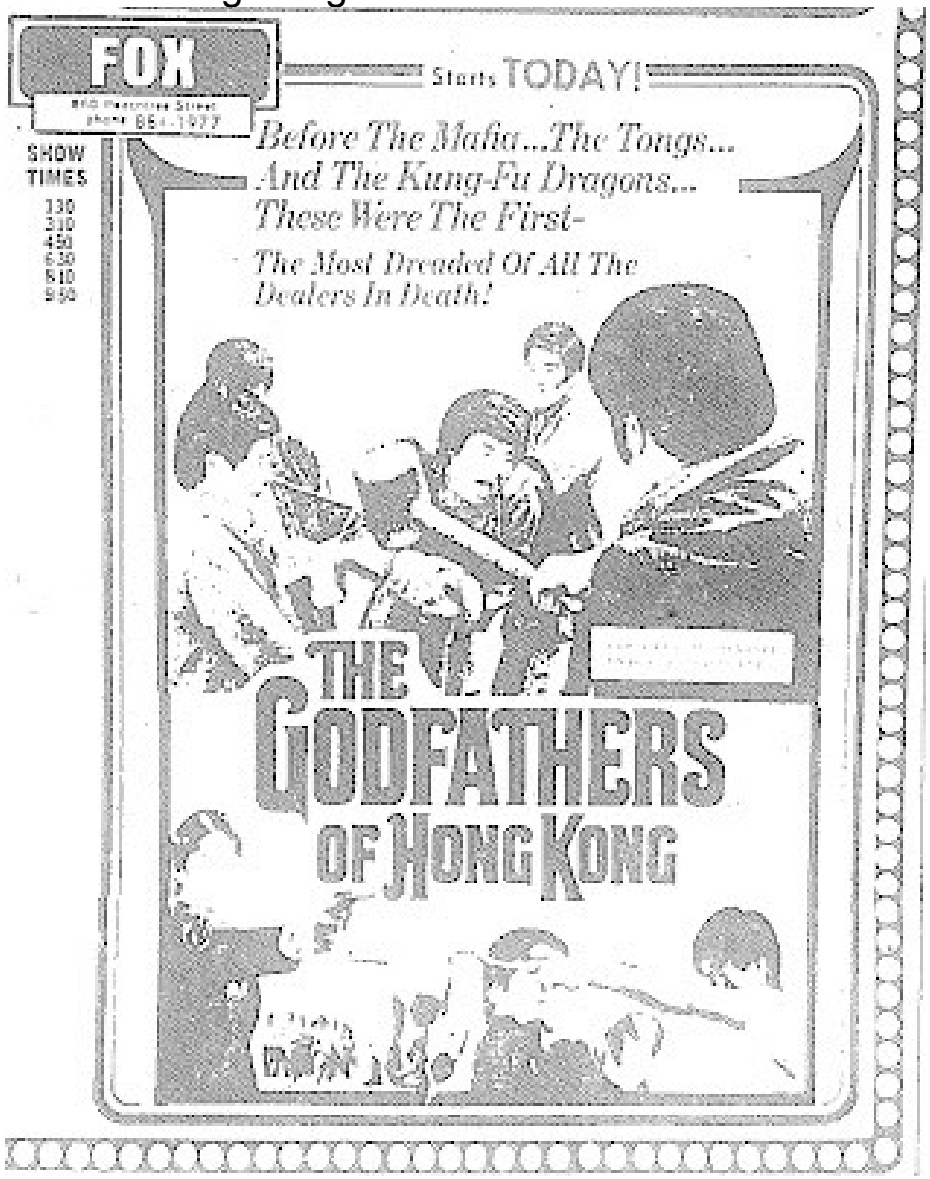
January 4, 1974 Wattstax



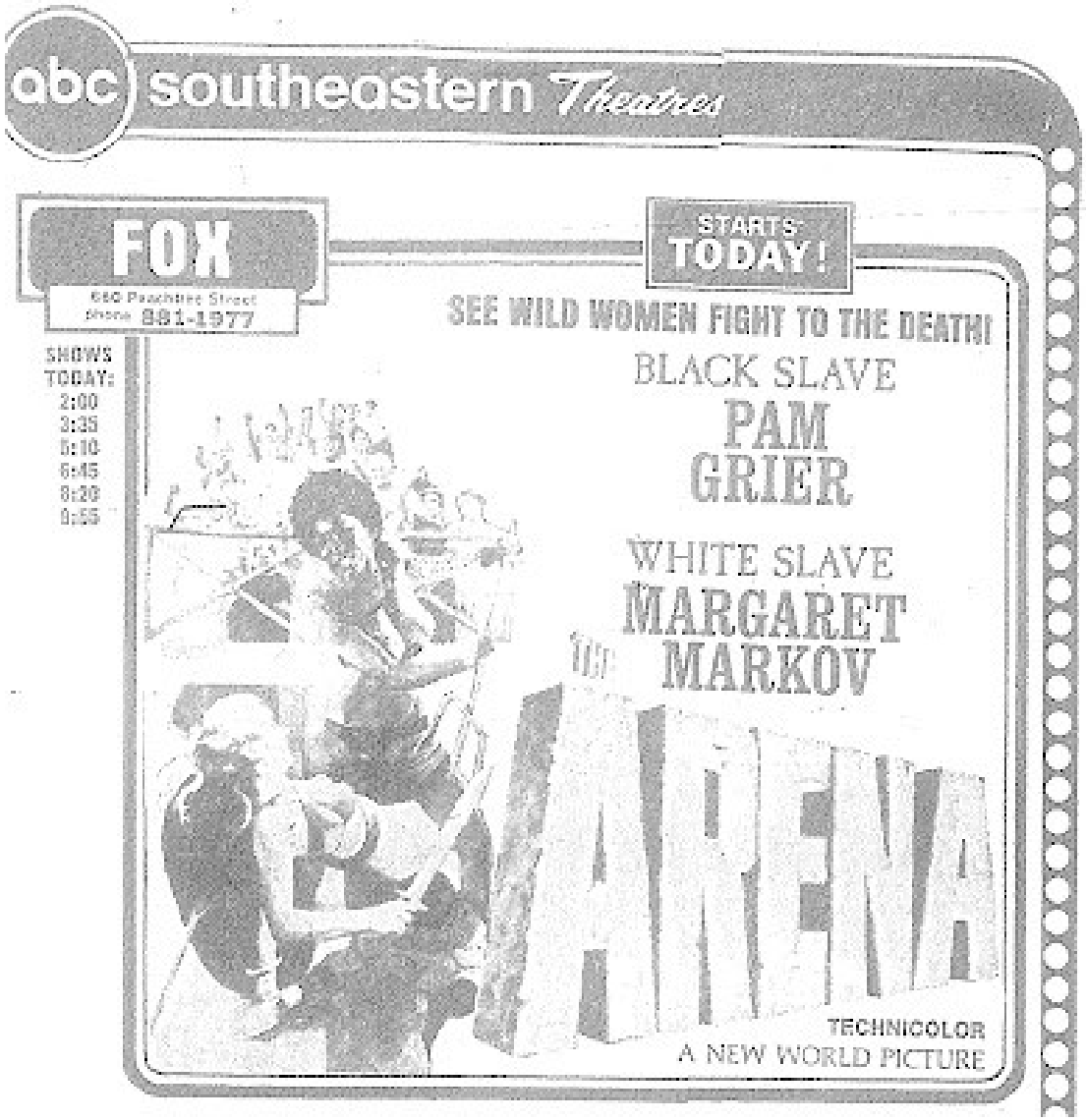
January 11, 1974 Cool Breeze & Melinda



January 18, 1974 The Godfathers of Hong Kong



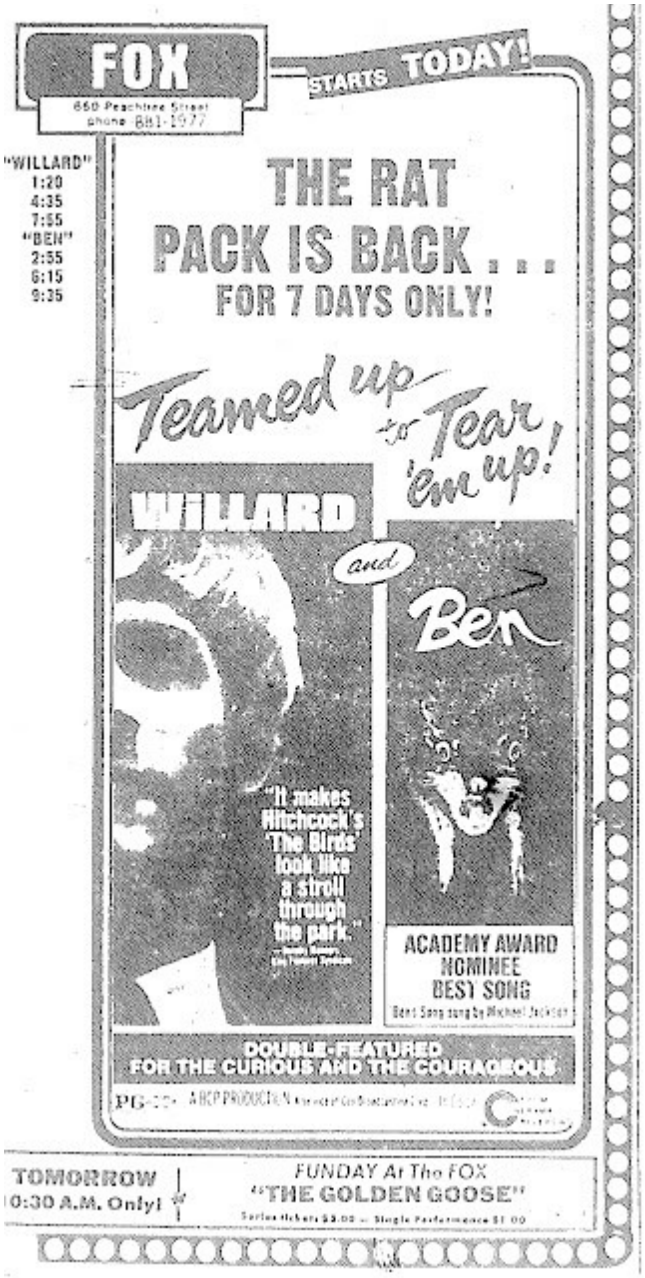
January 25, 1974 Arena



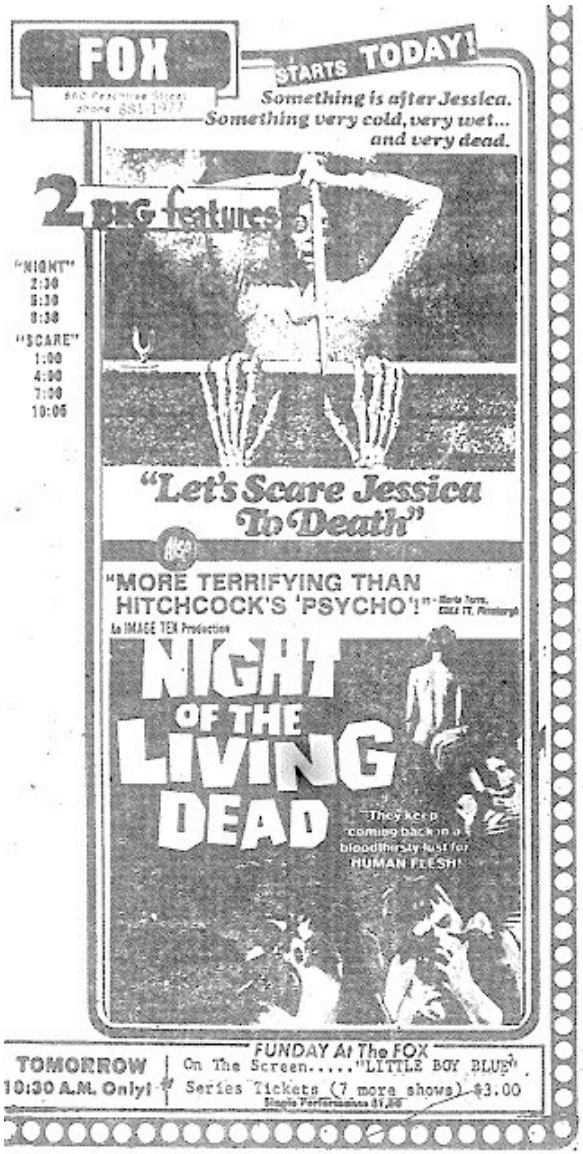
February 1, 1974 Arena (week 2)

February 8, 1974 From China with Death

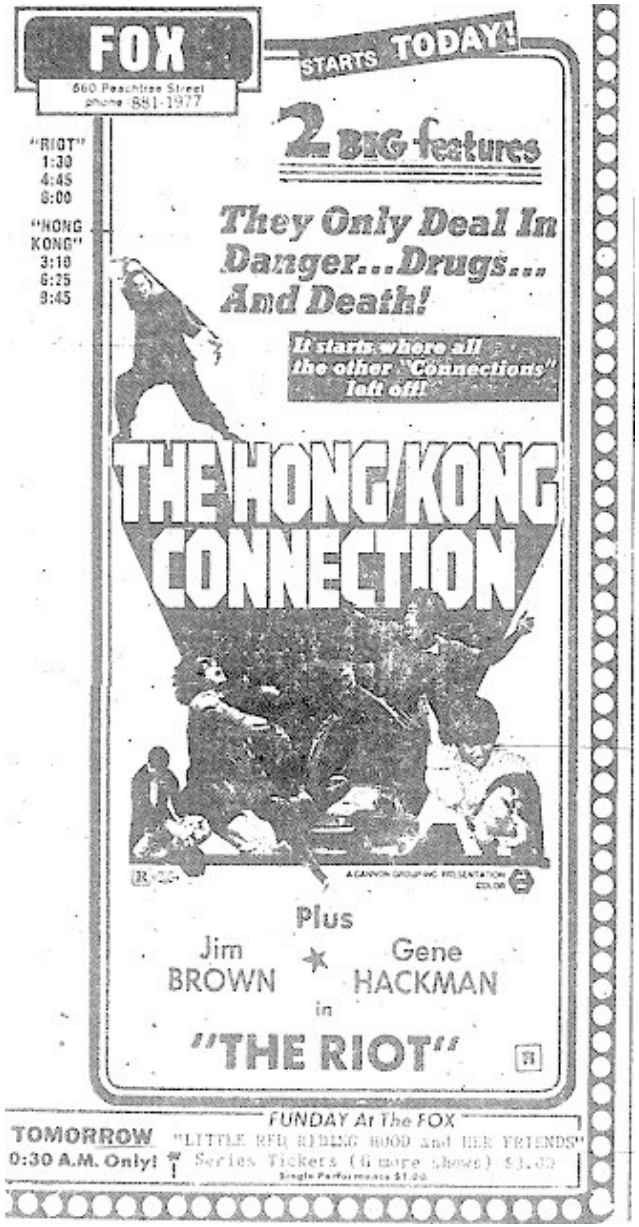
February 15, 1974 Willard & Ben



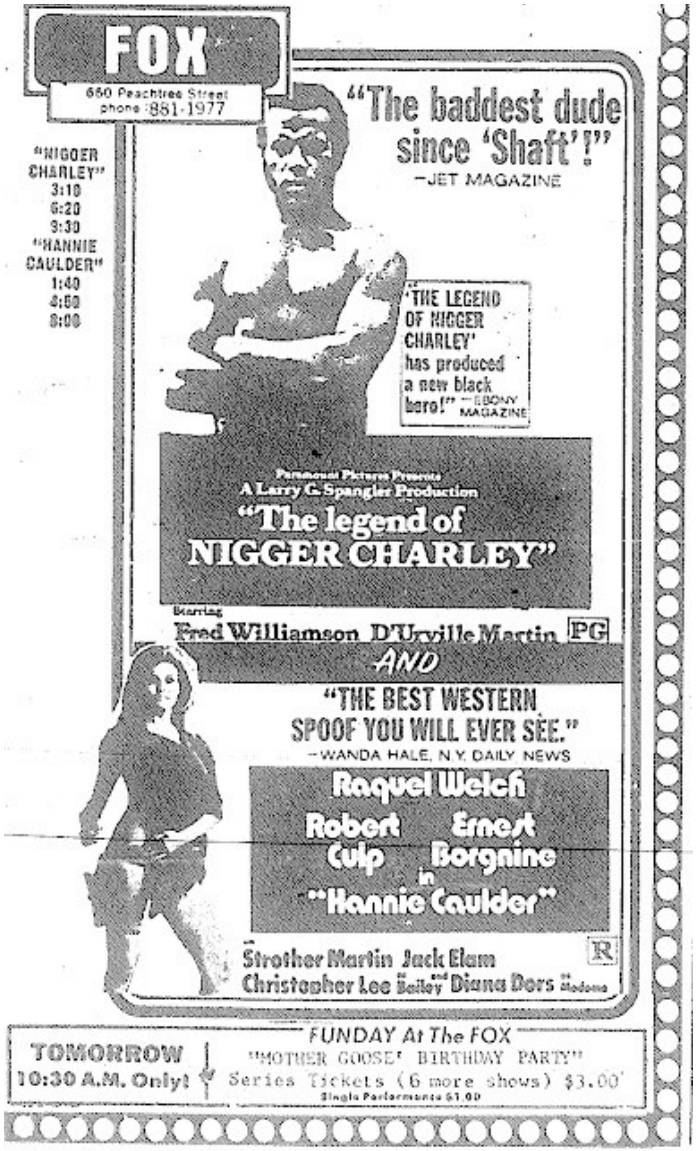
February 22, 1974 Let's Scare Jessica to Death & Night of the Living Dead



March 1, 1974 The Hong Kong Connection

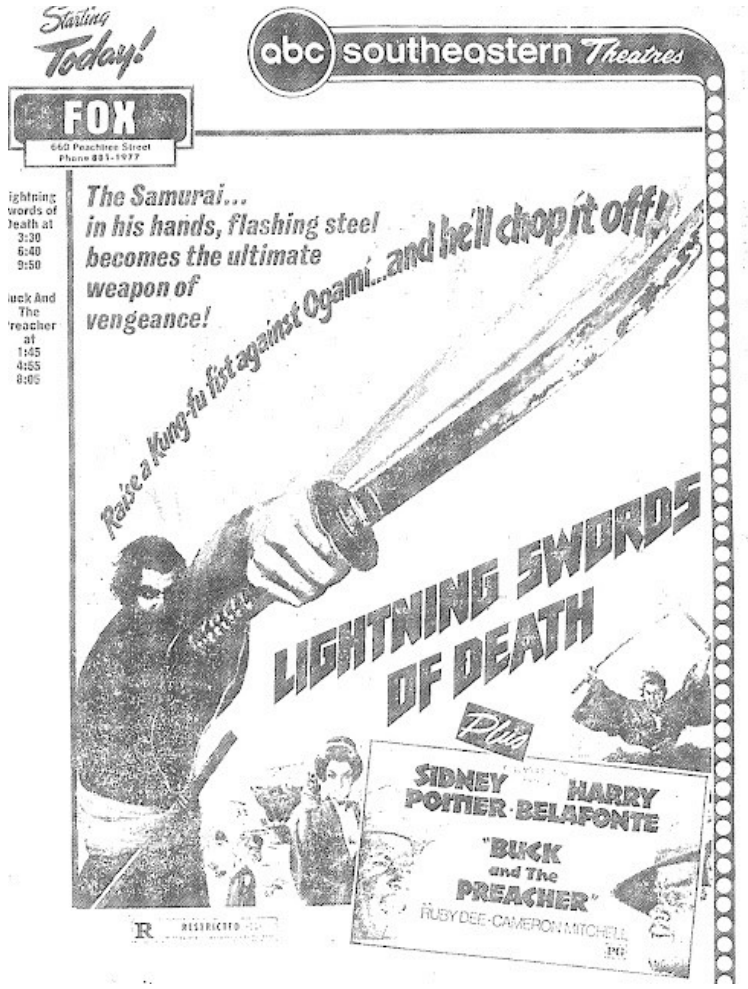


March 8, 1974 The Legend of Nigger Charley & Hannie Caulder (and Saturday FUNDAY)

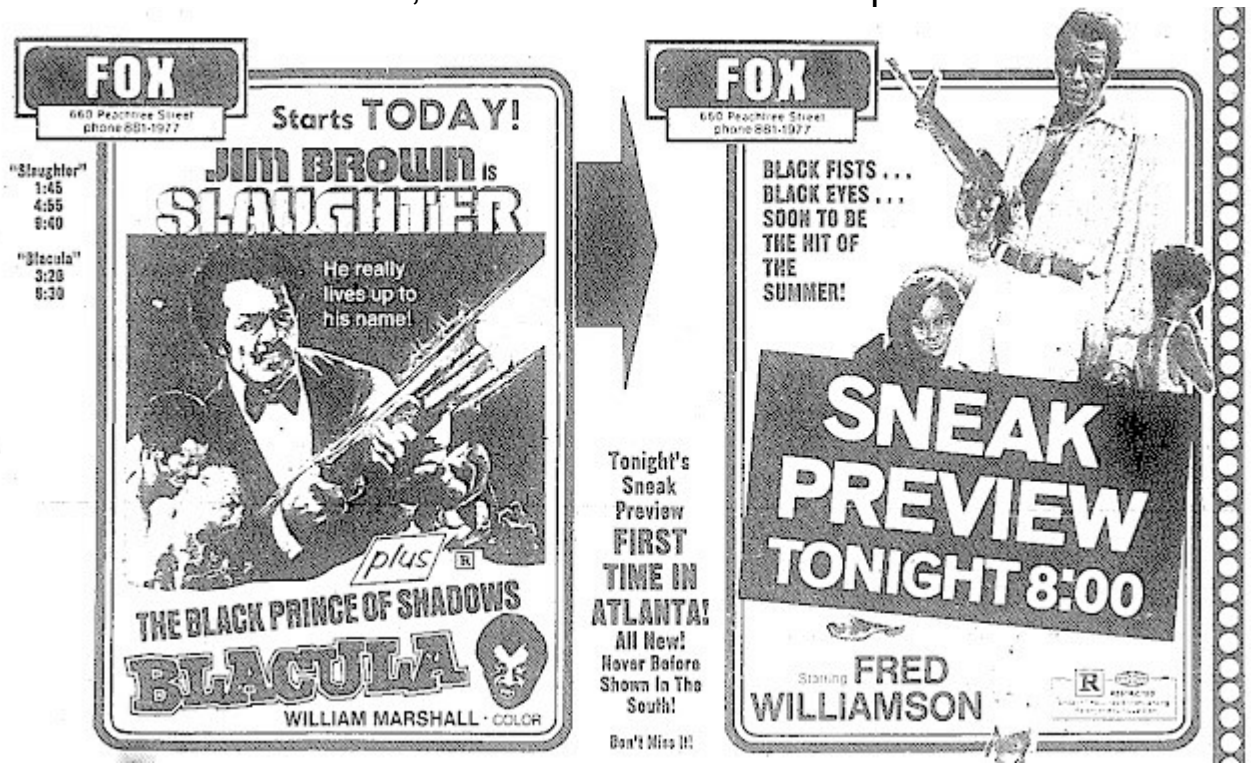


March 15, 1974 The Dragon's Veagnace & Honky

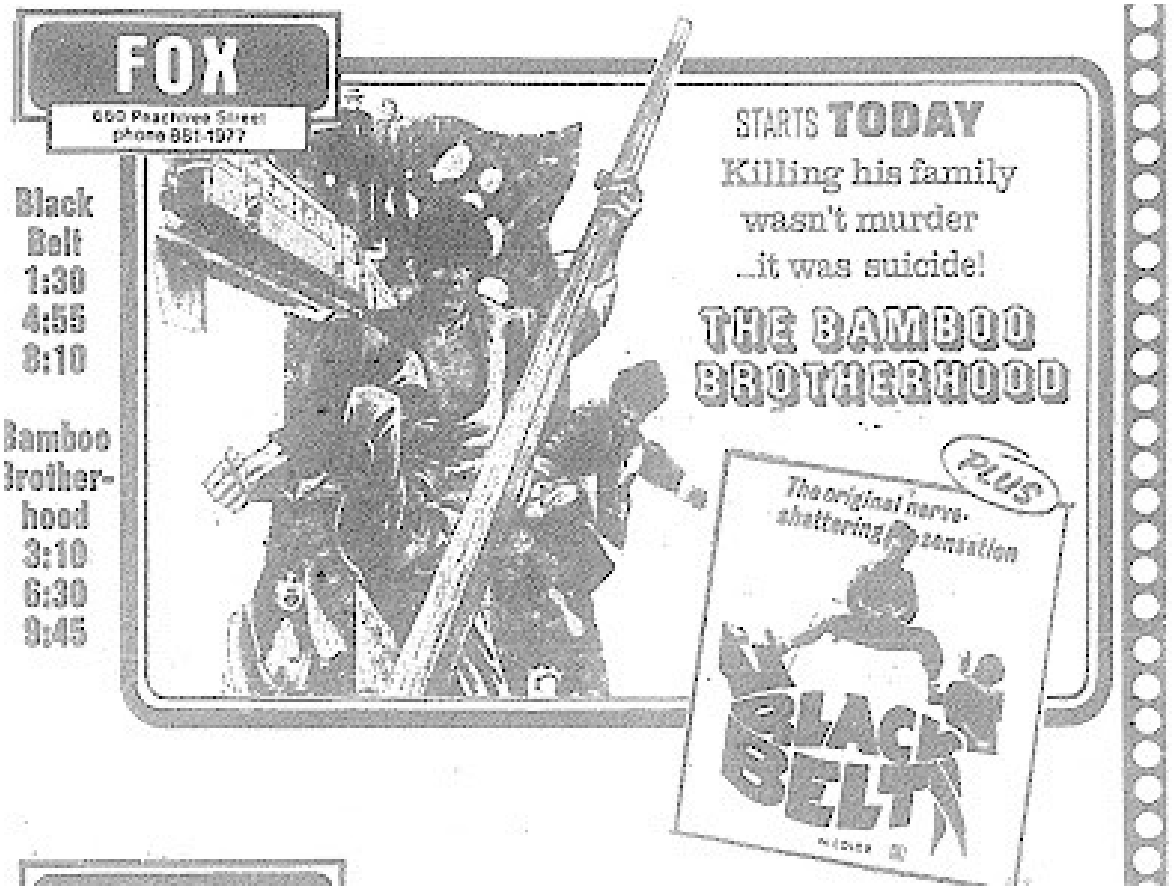
March 22, 1974 Lightning Swords of Death & Buck and the Preacher



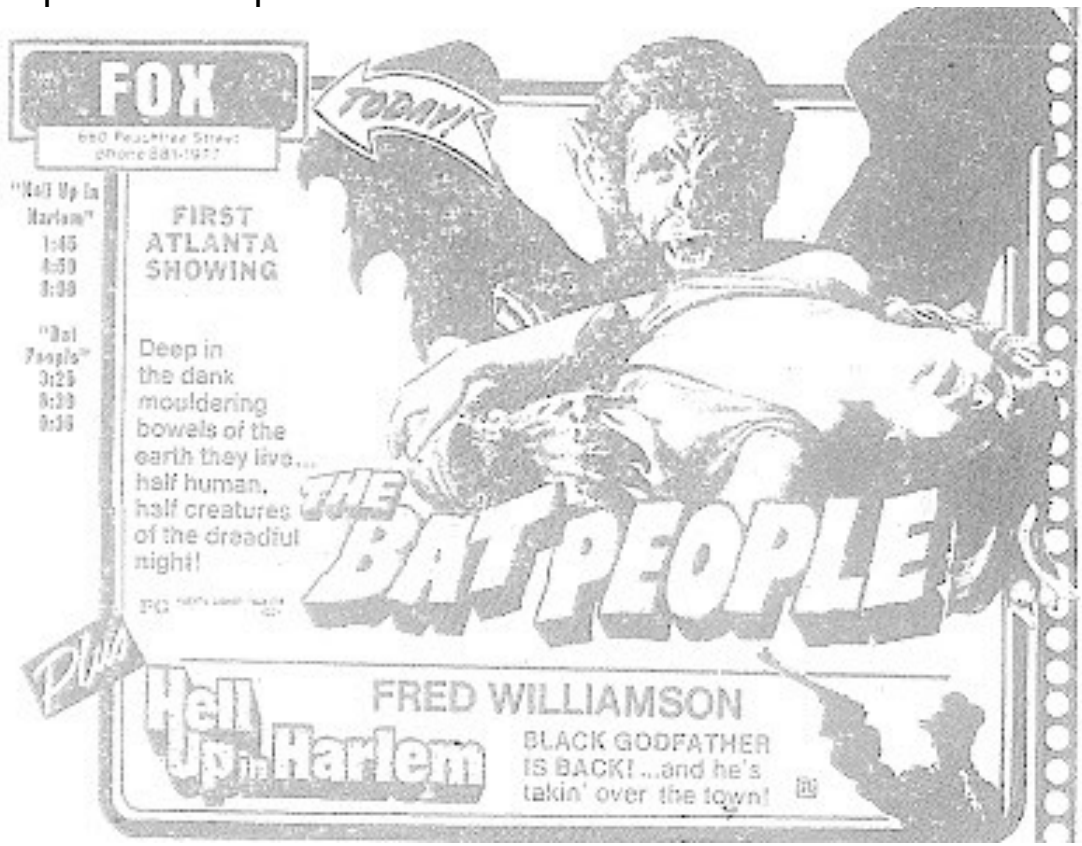
March 29, 1974 Blacula and sneak preview



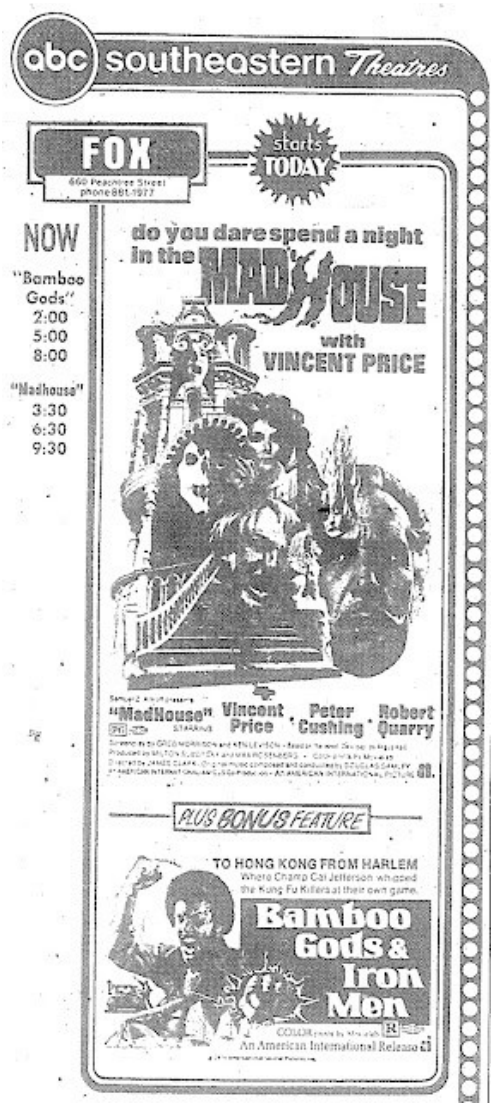
April 5, 1974 The Bamboo Brotherhood & Black Belt



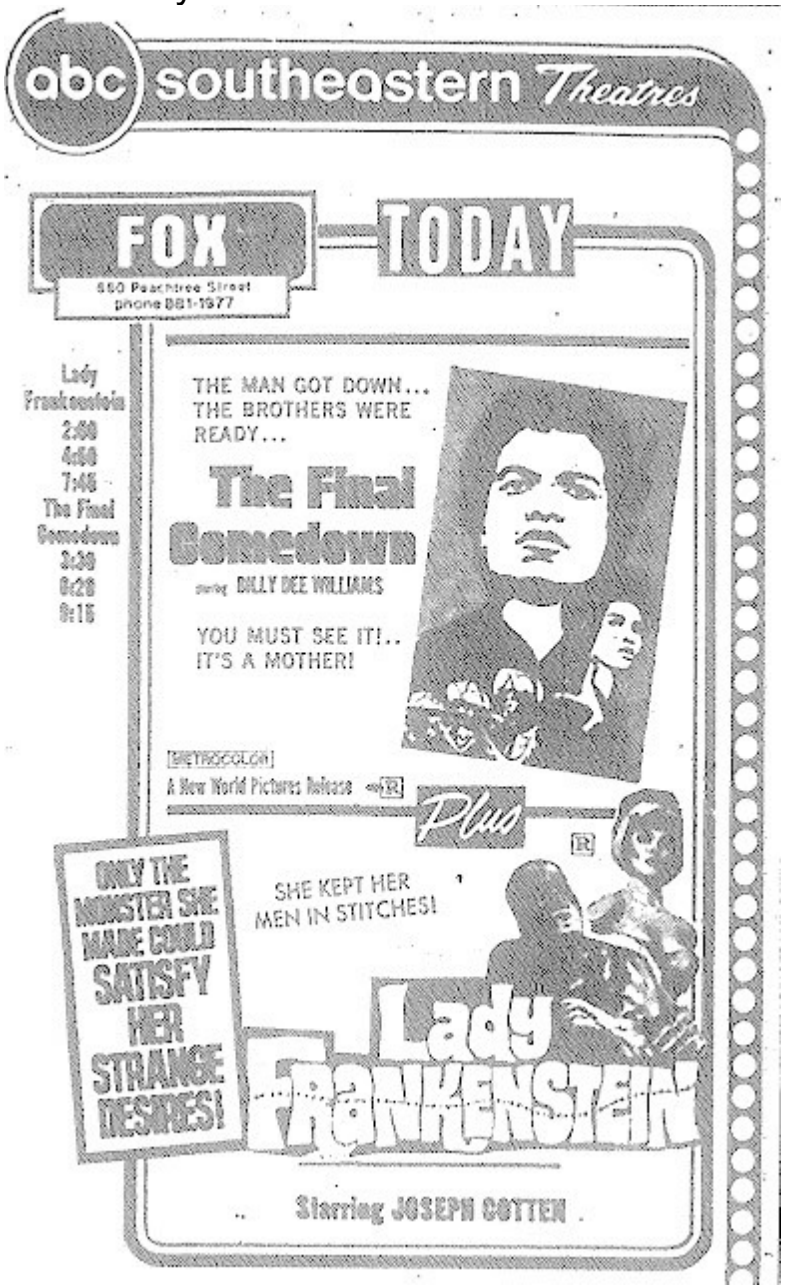
April 12, 1974 The Bat People & Hell Up in Harlem



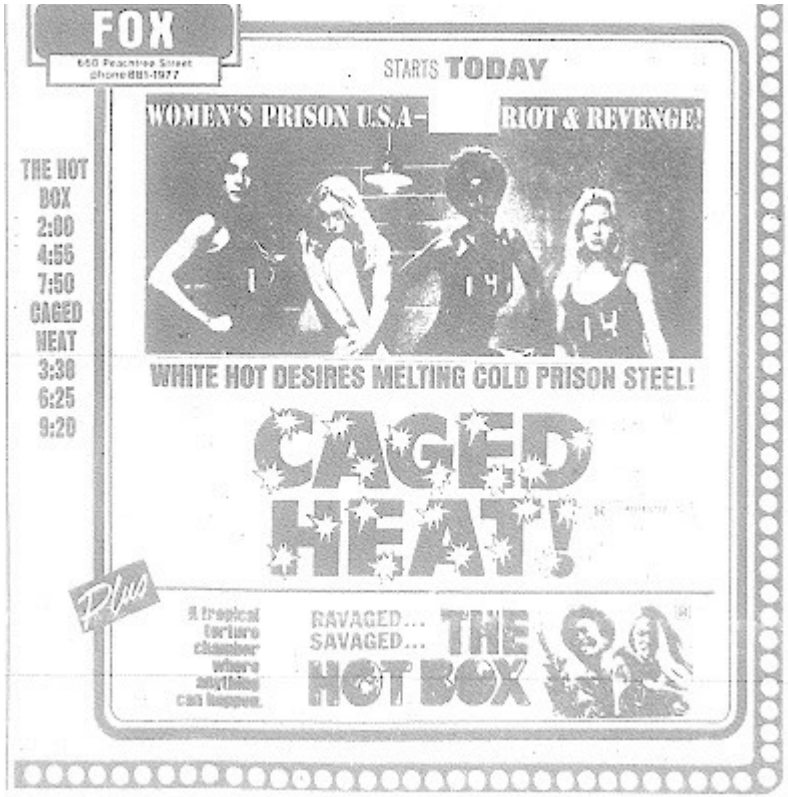
April 19, 1974 Mad House & Bamboo Gods and Iron Men



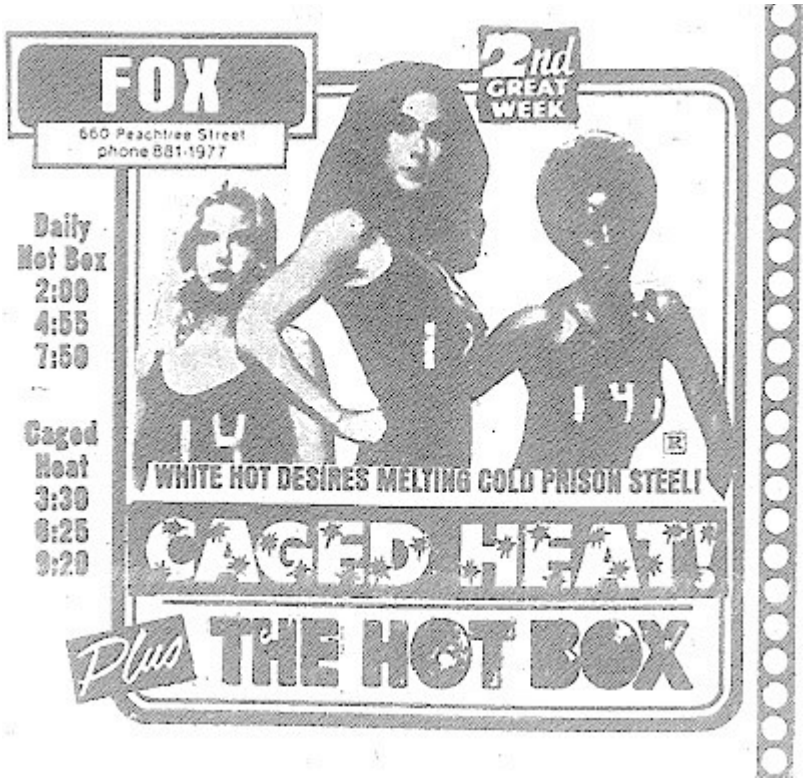
April 26, 1974 The Final Comedown & Lady Frankenstein



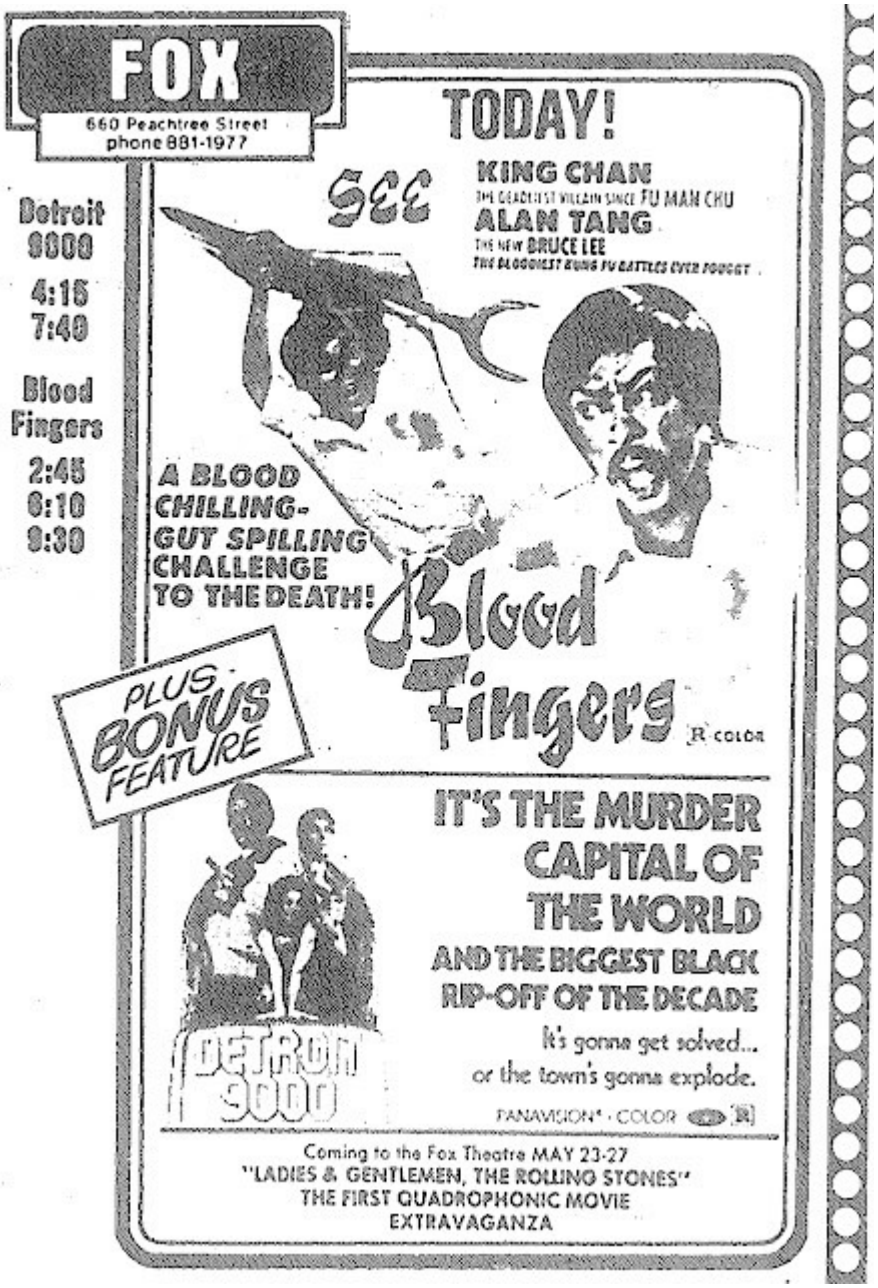
May 3, 1974 Caged Heat & The Hot Box



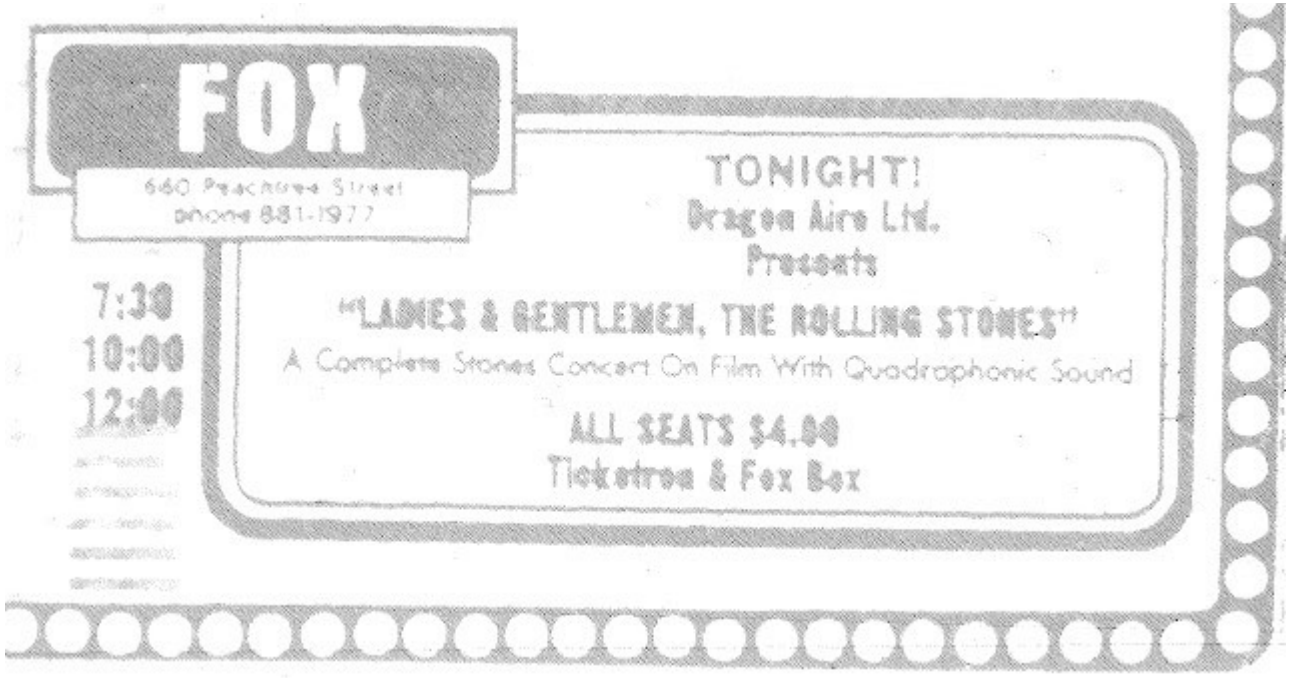
May 10, 1974 Caged Heat & The Hot Box (week 2)



May 19, 1974 Blood Fingers & Detroit 9000

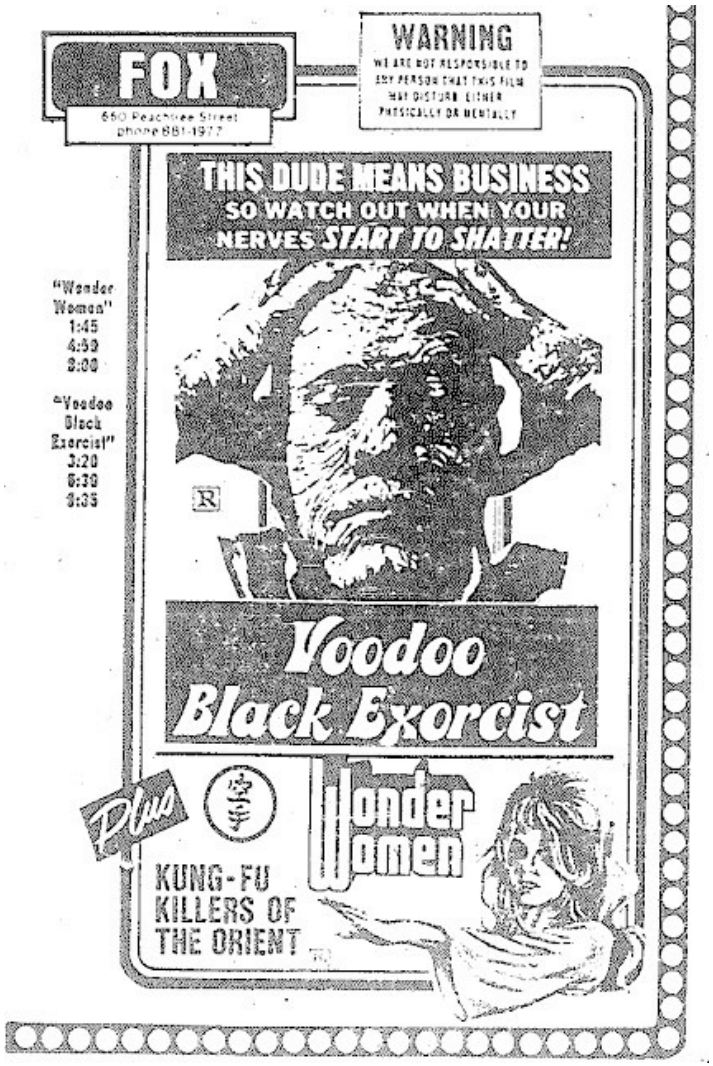


May 24, 1974 Ladies and Gentlemen The Rolling Stones

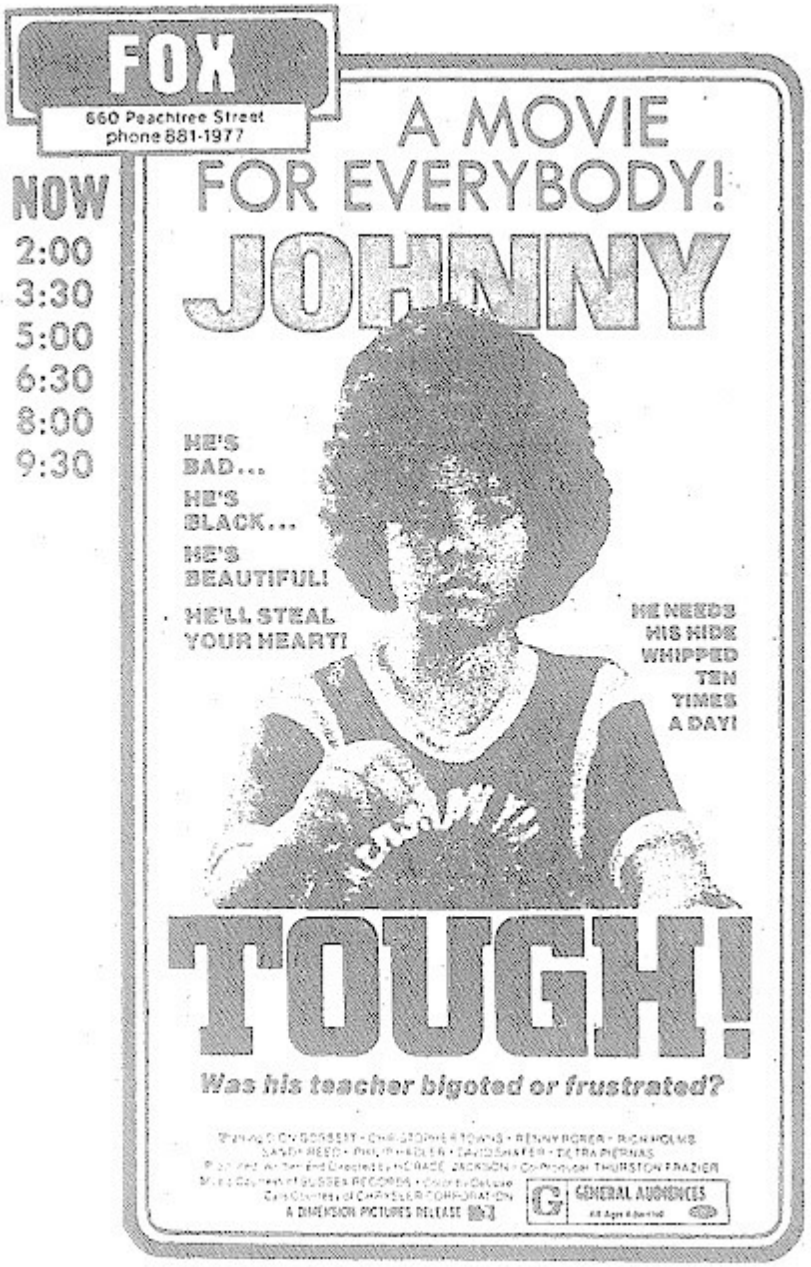


Great Speckled Bird full page ad for Ladies and Gentlemen The Rolling Stones

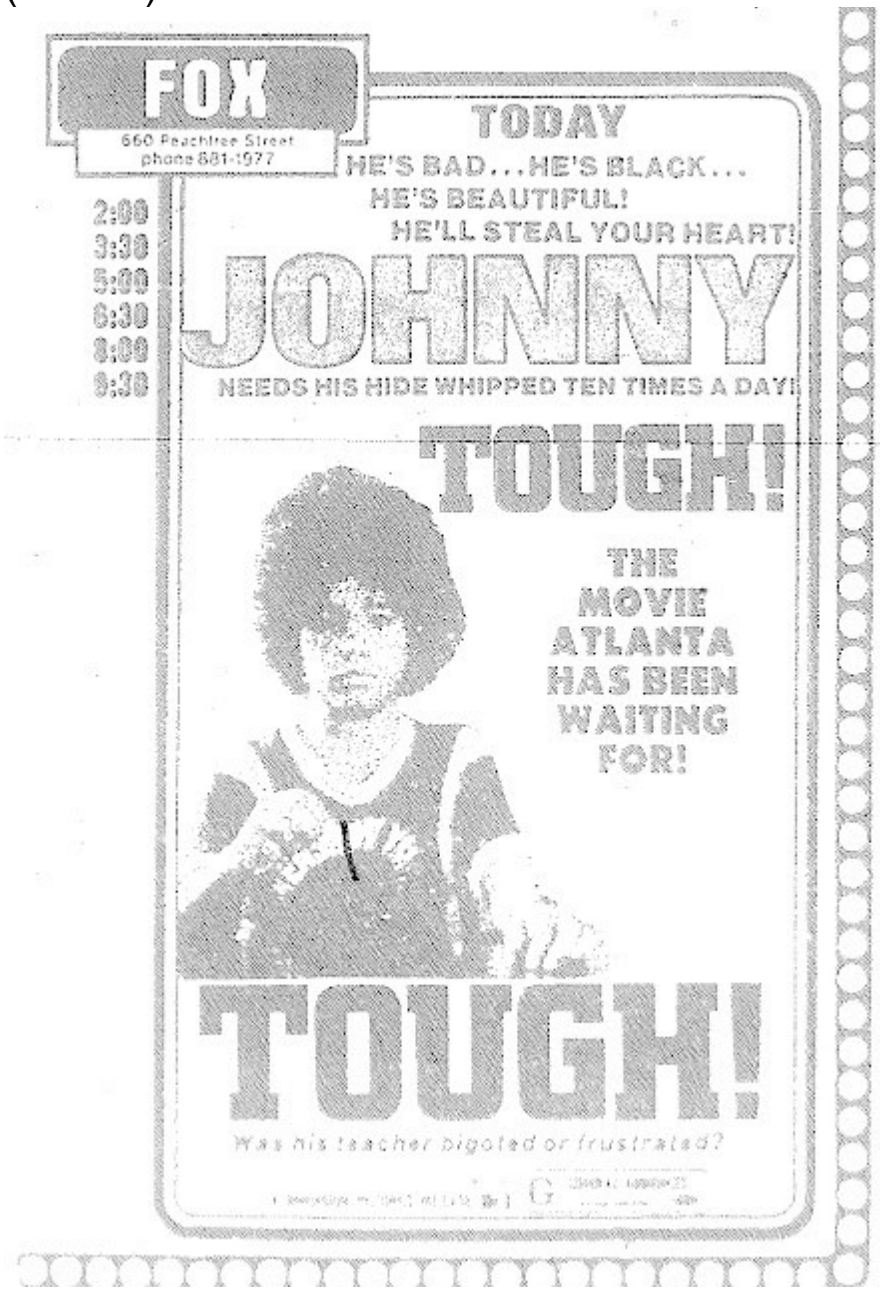
May 31, 1974 Voodoo Black Exorcist & Wonder Women



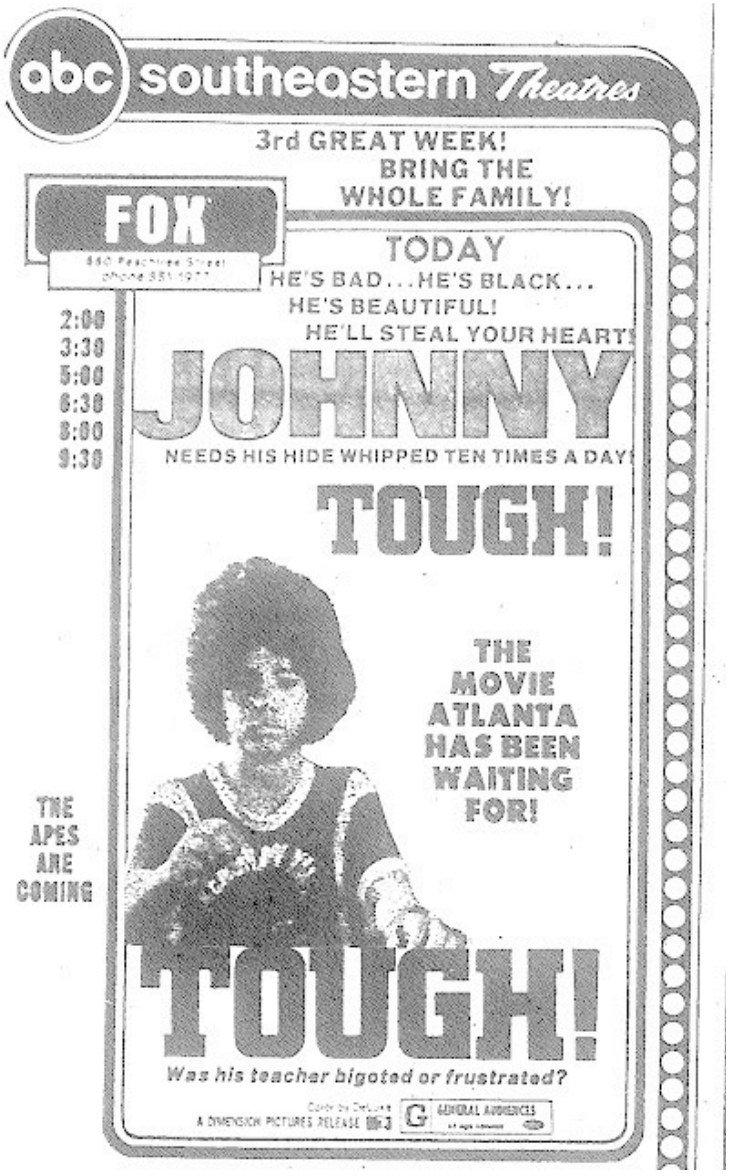
June 7, 1974 Johnny Tough (week 1)



June 14, 1974 Johnny Tough (week 2)

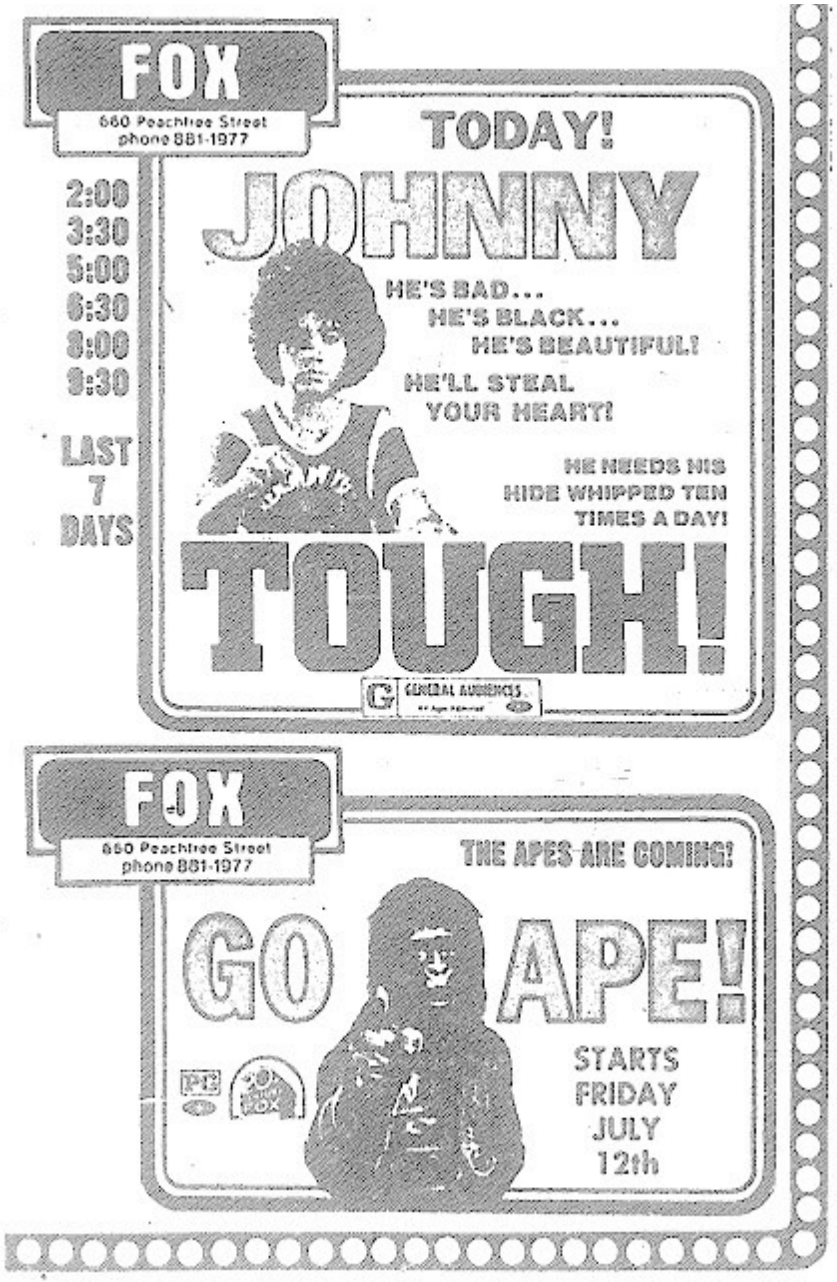


June 21, 1974 Johnny Tough (week 3)

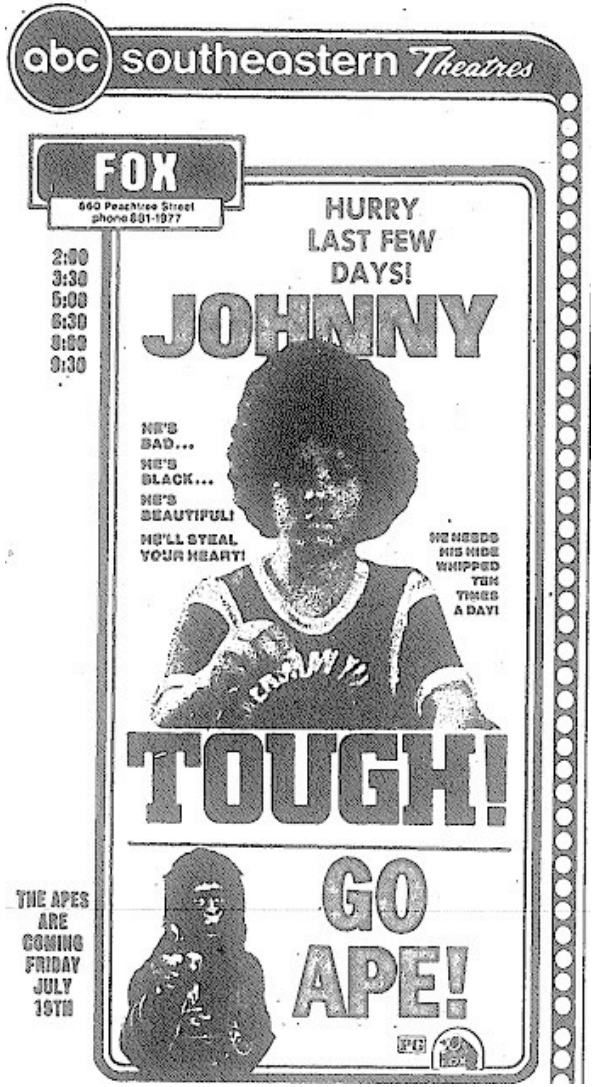


June 28, 1974 Johnny Tough (week 4)

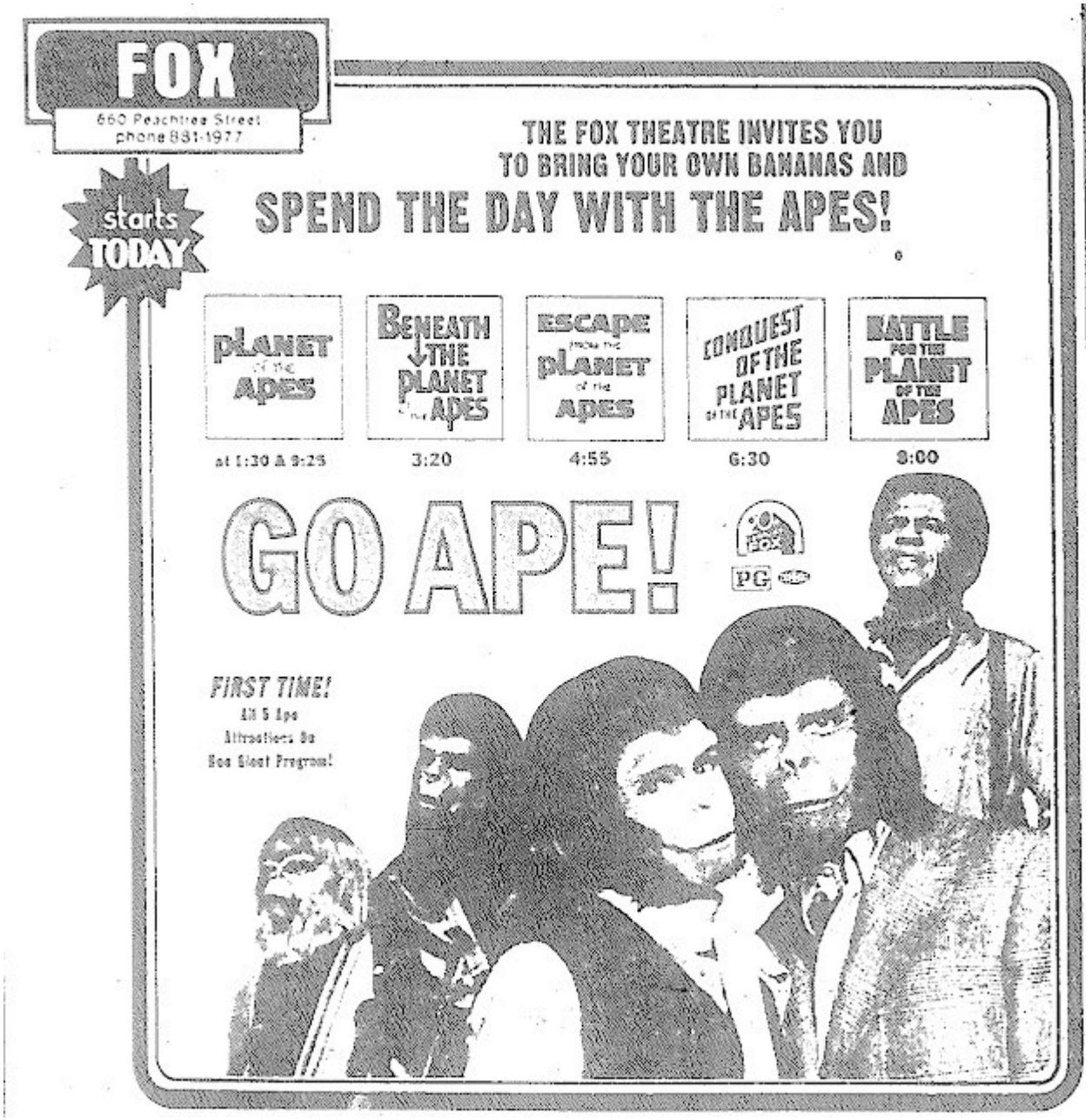
July 5, 1974 Johnny Tough (week 5)



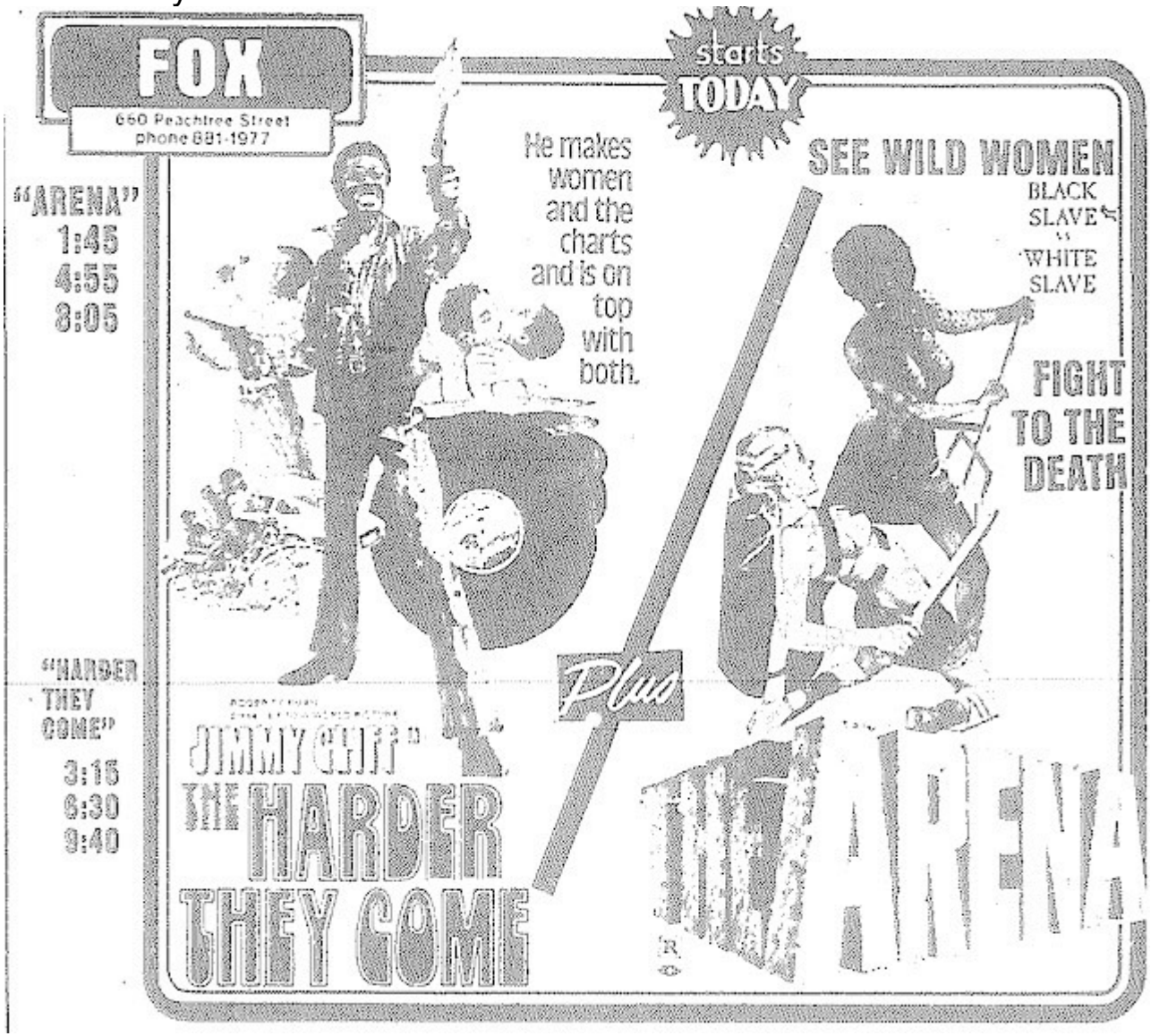
July 12, 1974 Johnny Tough (week 6)



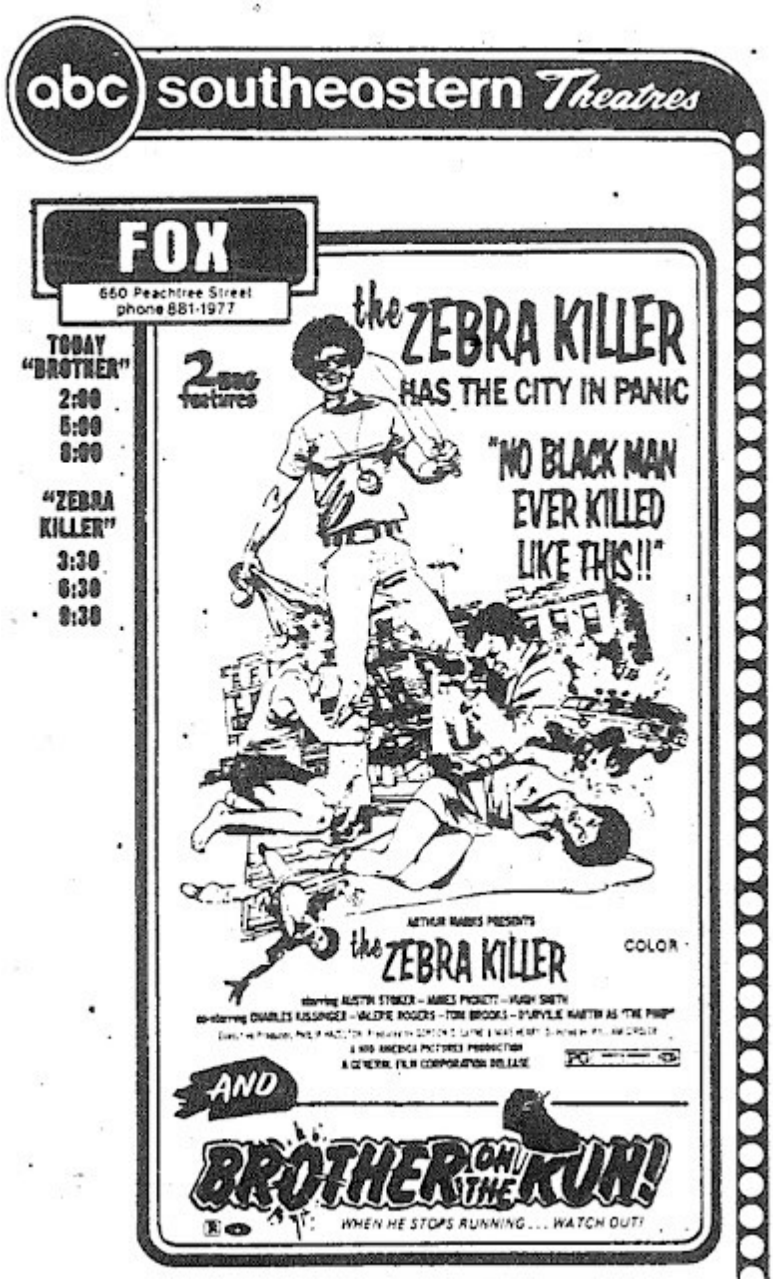
July 19, 1974 Go Ape (eight "Ape" films)



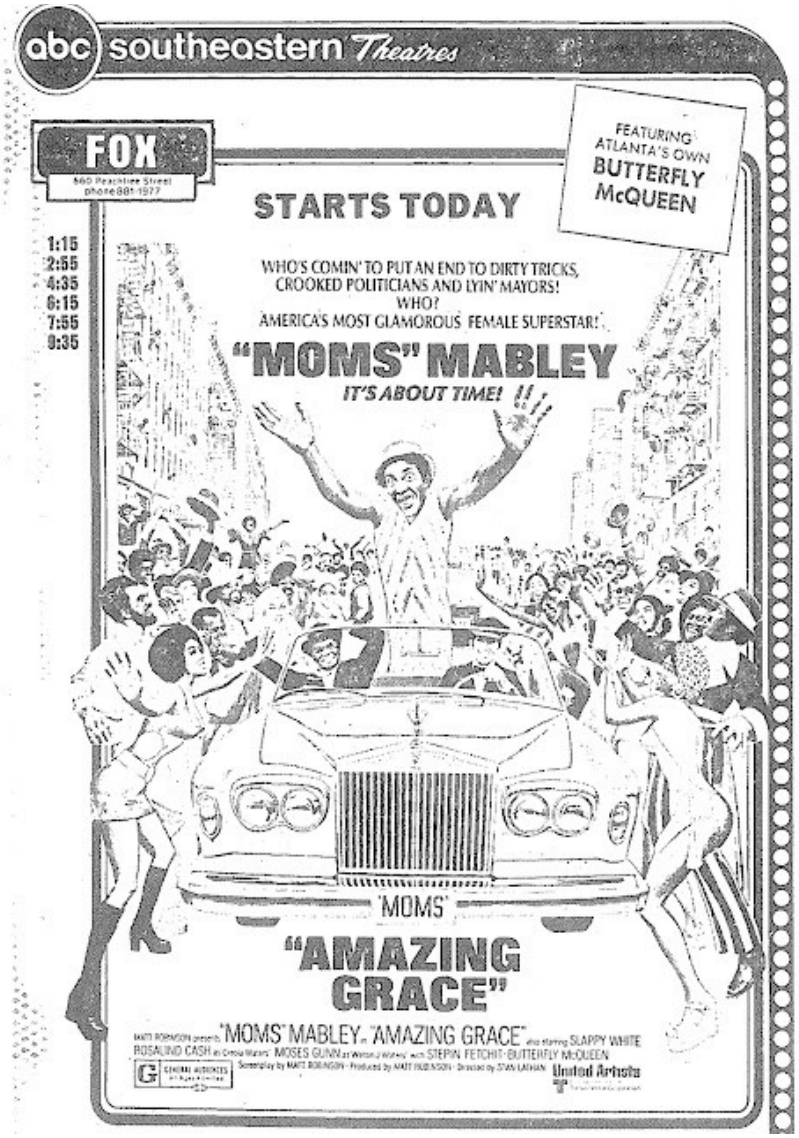
July 26, 1974 The Harder they Come & The Arena



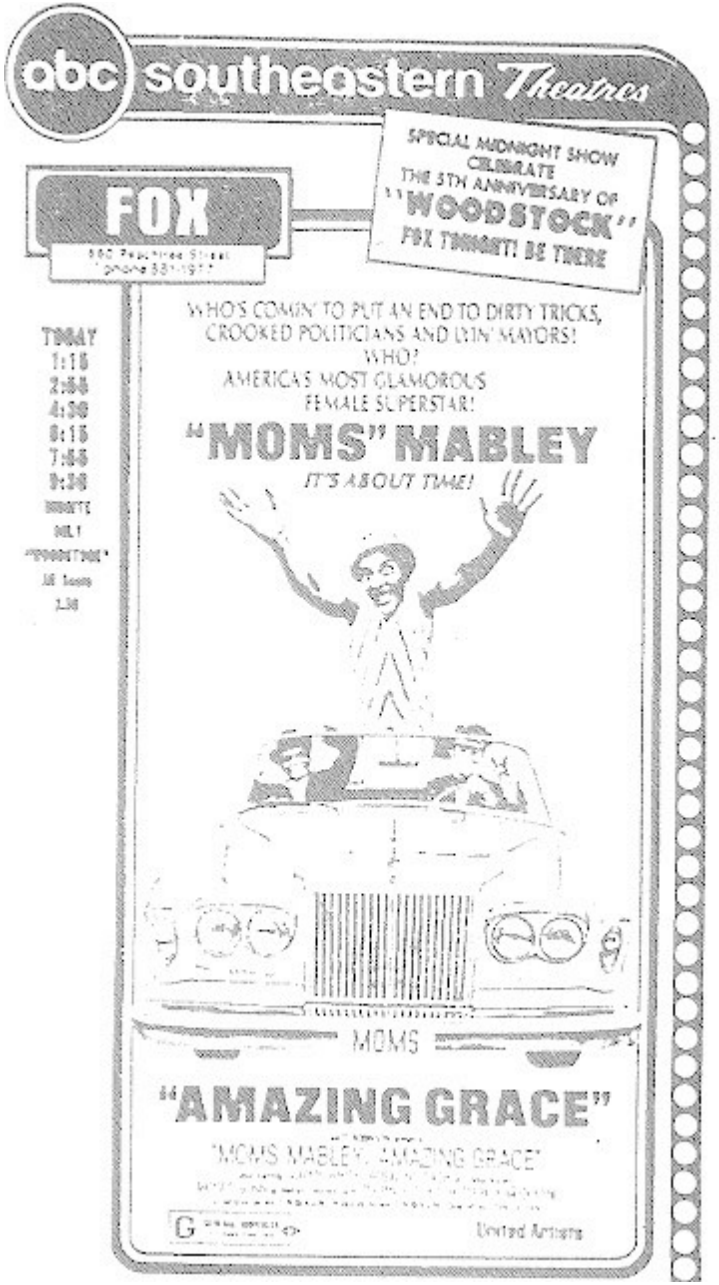
August 4, 1974 The Zebra Killer & Brother on the Run



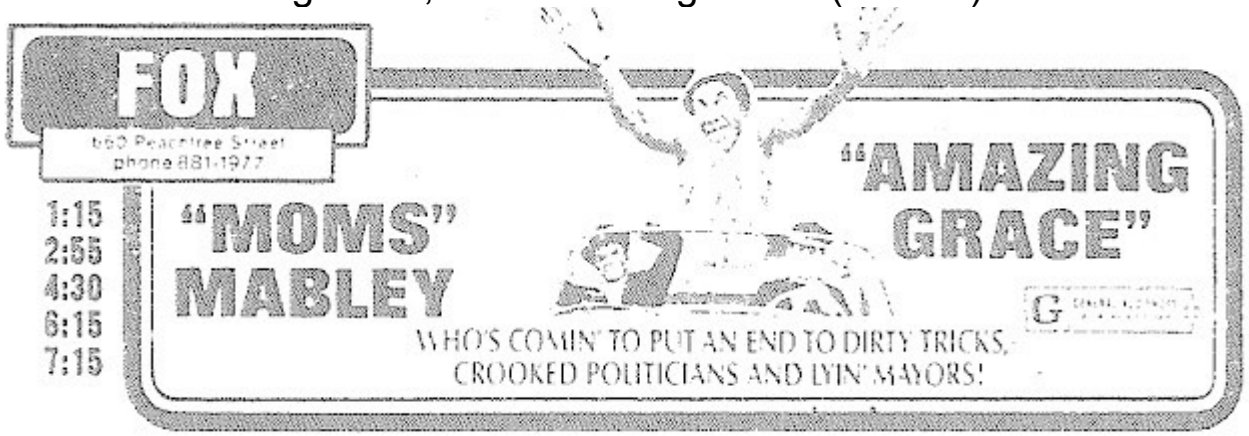
August 9, 1974 Amazing Grace



August 16, 1974 Amazing Grace (week 2) & Woodstock (midnight show)

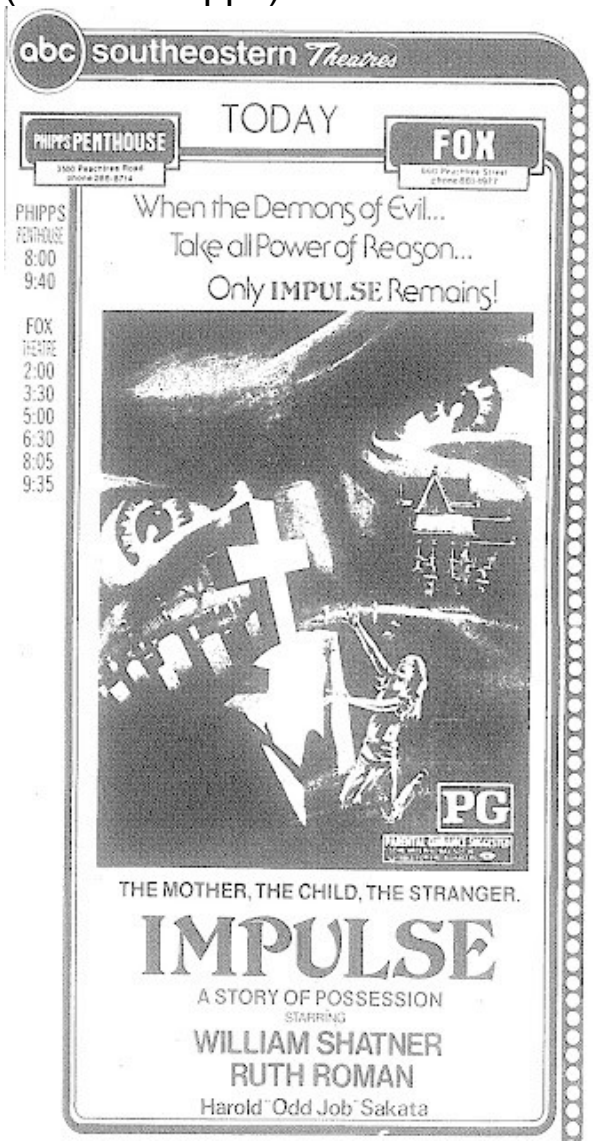


August 23, 1974 Amazing Grace (week 3)

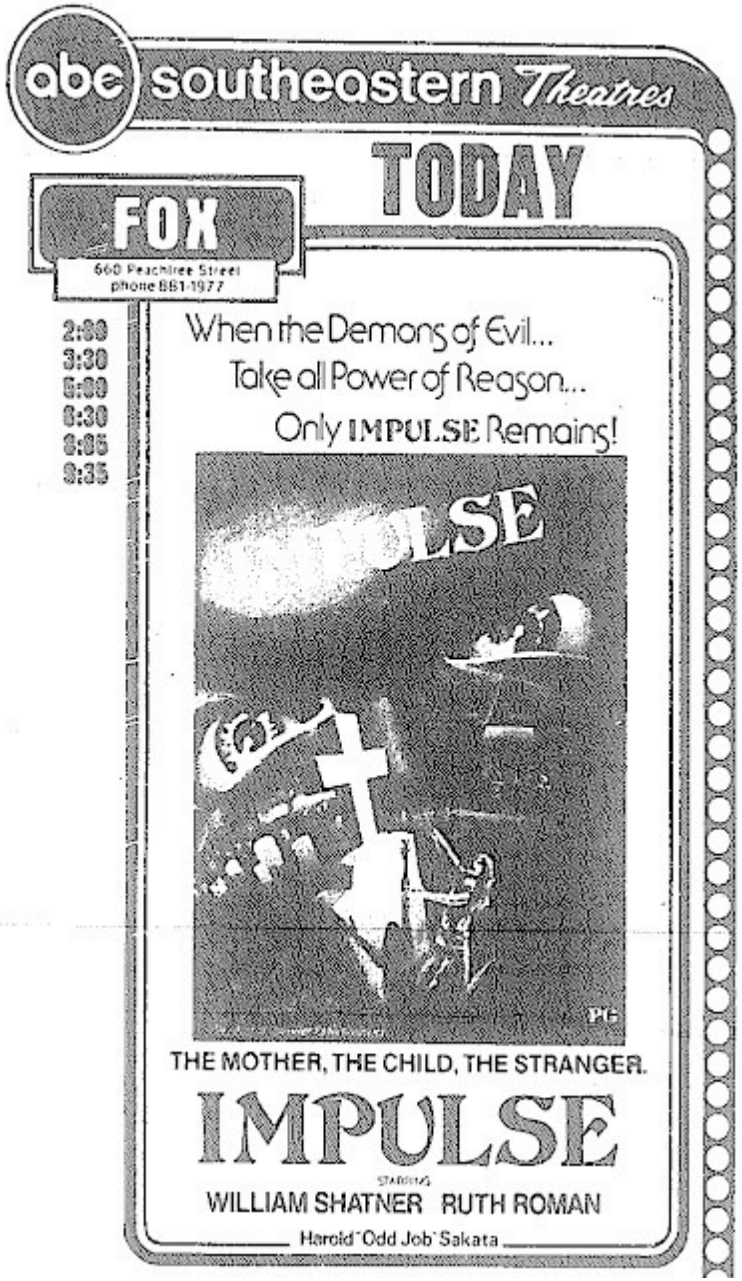


August 30, 1974 Impulse (also running at Phipps Penthouse)

September 6, 1974 Impulse (week 2) (also at Phipps)



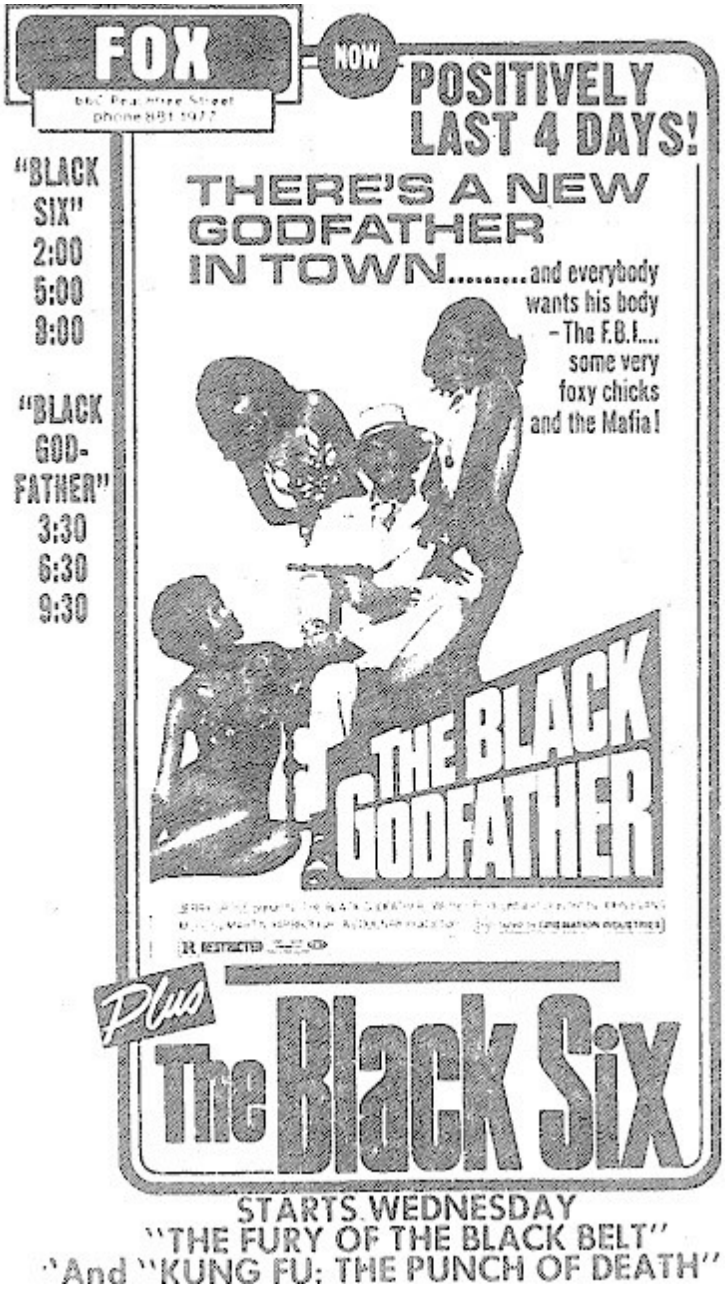
September 13, 1974 Impulse (week 3)



September 20, 1974 The Black G*dfather & The Black Six

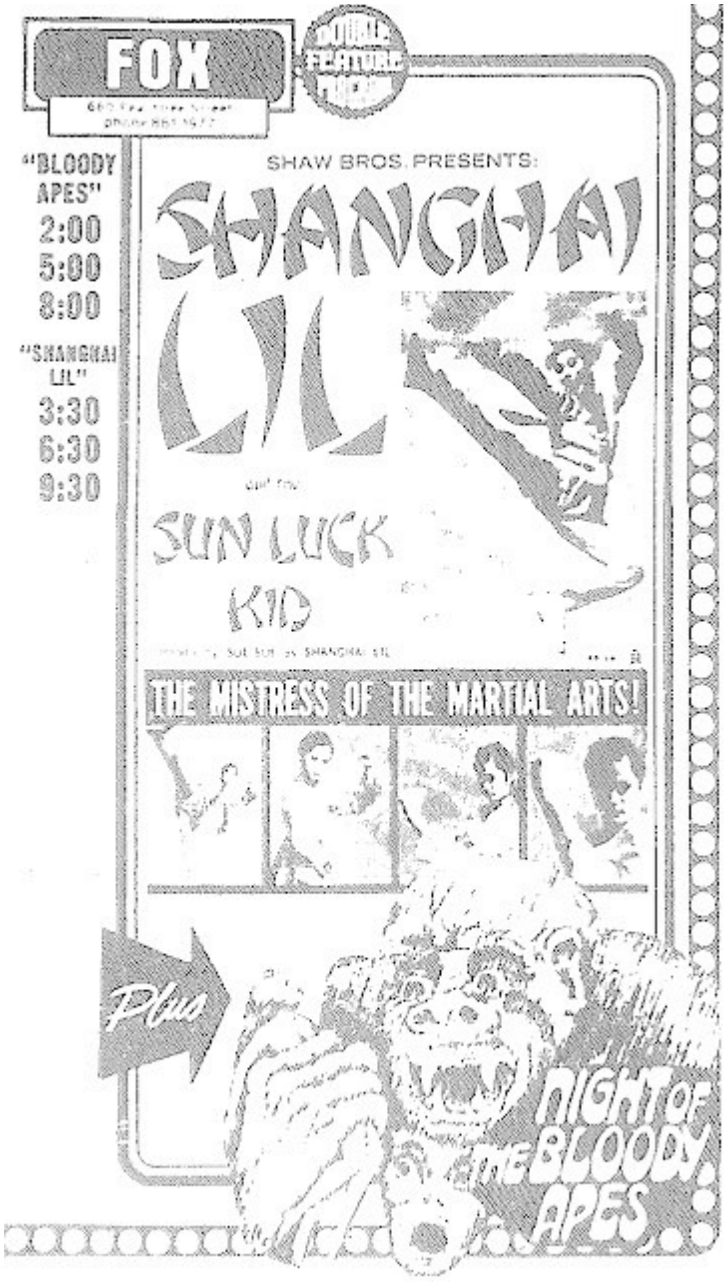
September 27, 1972 The Black G*dfather & The Black Six (week 2)

October 4, 1974 The Black G*dfather & The Black Six (week 3)



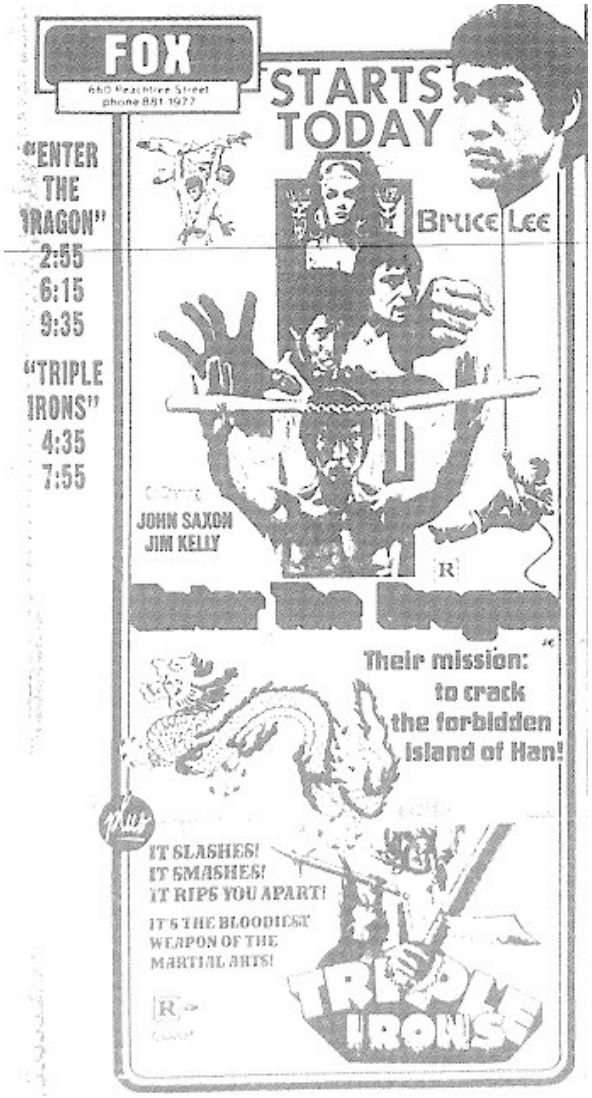
October 11, 1974 The Fury of the Black Belt & Every Punch Hurts

October 18, 1974 Shanghai Lil & Night of the Bloody Apes

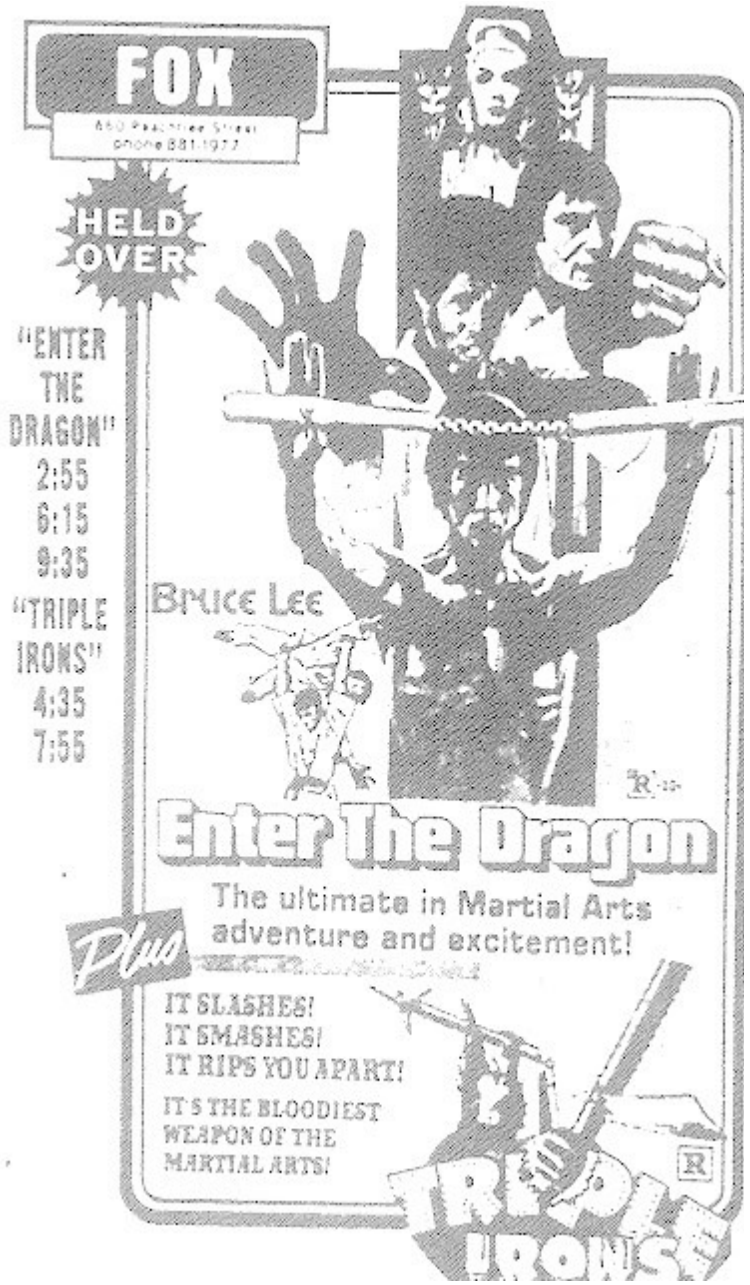


October 25, 1974 Return of the Dragon & Chinese Hercules

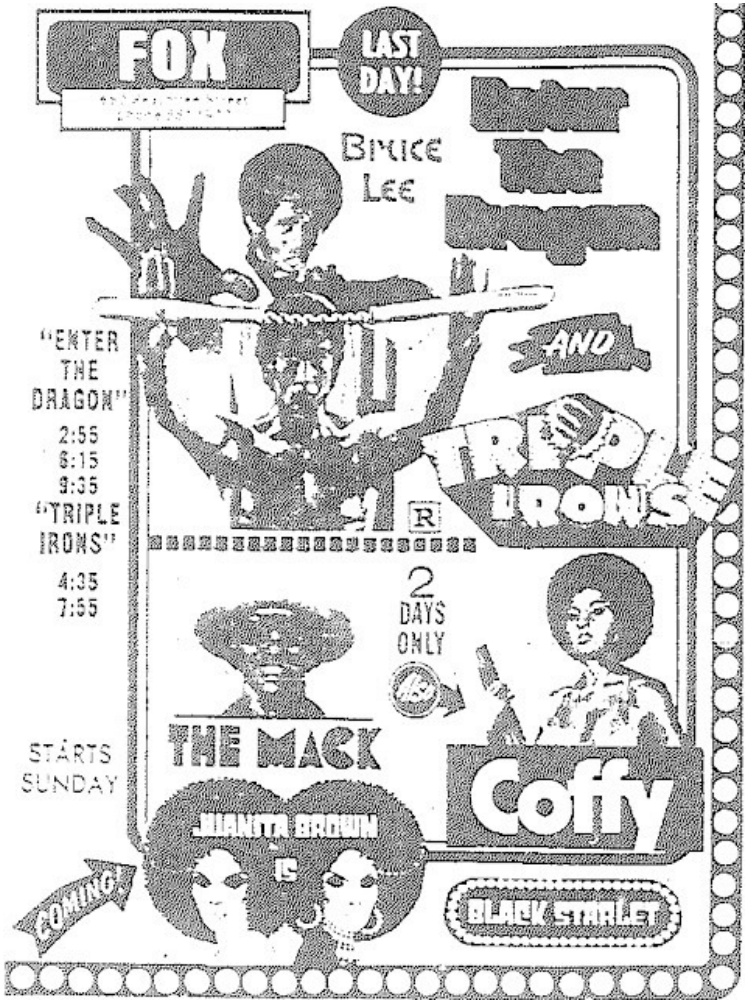
November 1, 1974 Enter the Dragon & Triple Irons



November 8, 1974 Enter the Dragon & Triple Irons (week 2)

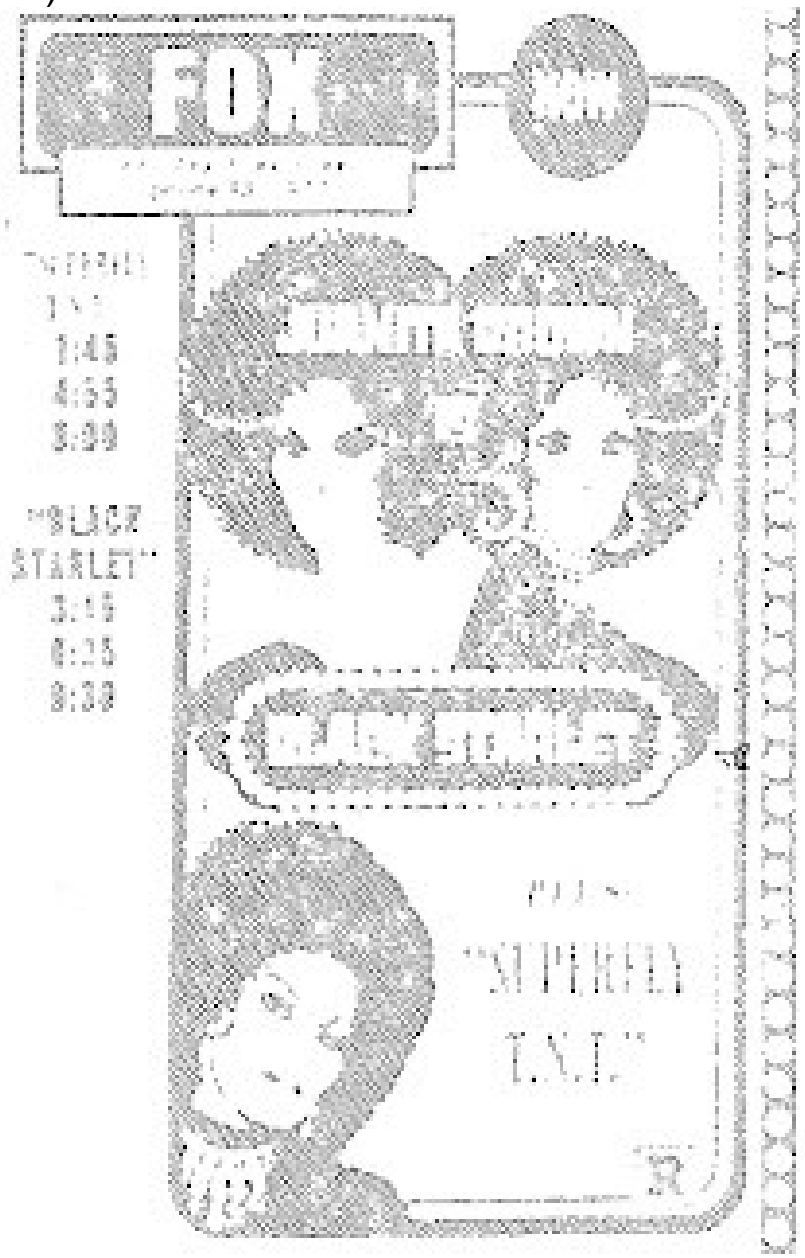


November 15, 1974 Enter the Dragon & Triple Irons (week 3)



November 22, 1974 Starlet (world premiere) (week 1)

November 29, 1974 Starlet (week 2)

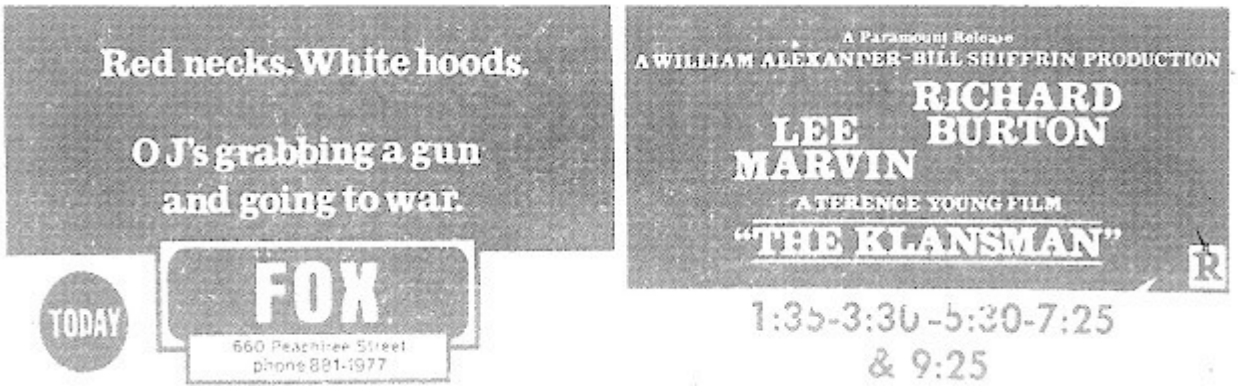


December 6, 1974 Conrack & Claudine

December 13, 1974 Honey Baby Honey Baby & Blood on the Sun

December 20, 1974 The Klansmen (week 1) (starring OJ Simpson)

December 27, 1974-January 2, 1975 The Klansmen (week 2) FINAL PICTURE AT THE FOX



ATLANTA CONSTITUTION, JANUARY 3, 1975

The Fox Theater Is Dead!

By FAY S. JOYCE

Staff Photo—Bill Mahan

Ledford Rolls It Up

The stars went out at the Fox Theater Thursday night.

Close to half a century of some of the best entertainment in the country ended near midnight when a night watchman locked the theater's doors for the last time.

Shut away, apparently for good, were the intricate styling and furnishings of a Moorish courtyard with its exotic walls and battlements and the famed starry, azure sky on the ceiling within.

Gone too by midnight was the meager crowd, characteristically small for a feature Fox manager Mike Spirtos called "the year's worst movie."

But it was a crowd that came mostly to relive memories and to take a last, lingering look at a grandeur few expected to find in a theater again.

"She lives in an age that doesn't want her, that paves paradise and puts up a parking lot," Spirtos told the audience in an emotional speech.

He invited the fans to stay as long as they liked after the last scene of "The Klansman" faded from the screen. Young volunteers kept an eye on the theater's interior to preserve it "for somebody," as college student Bob Foreman put it.

The film was the last in Claude Ledford's 20-year career as a projectionist at the Fox. Although he "seldom watches these movies anymore," Ledford recalled some of the theater's greats—films like "The Robe" and "Shane" and "Love is a Many Splendored Thing."

The monument to fantasy hosted live entertainment too—New York's Metropolitan Opera toured there until 1968; stage shows featuring everyone from Milton Berle to Gypsy Rose Lee trooped through and on the strictly local level, the Georgia Tech Glee Club crooned every Christmas.

A tradition like that is hard to let go of, and Spirtos commented recently, "There's still hope. Some sugar daddy may come along and save us."

Spirtos and other fans of the picture palace have until May 1 to find that "daddy" with 4.25 million.

The Fox's owners, Mosque, Inc., and its purchasers, Southern Bell Telephone Co., have agreed to wait until after that date to complete their deal.

The contract reportedly calls for a vacant piece of land at Peachtree and Ponce de Leon to be turned over to Southern Bell after May 1.

Thursday's movie showings were the last scheduled by ABC Southeastern Theaters Inc., which had become part-owner of the Fox and had leased the building for "at least" 25 years, according to an ABC vice president.

The vice president, who asked not to be named, said he doubted "very much" that the theater would be opened again for the kind of one-night rock-and-roll concerts that had filled it in recent years.

"It costs too much to open it for just one night," he explained. The heating will be on, however, to preserve the enormous Moller organ.

Rising costs and falling patronage doomed the picture palace that was created in the glamourous Hollywood heyday of 1929.

"I'm telling you, most moviegoers don't come downtown," said the ABC vice president.

Other owners cited fear of crime downtown and competition from more convenient suburban theaters as contributing factors in the Fox's demise.

"Those old theater monuments with so many seats simply can't operate in today's world," commented Fred Storey, trustee of the estate which owns quarter-interest in the Fox.

A "Save the Fox" committee, appointed by the commissioner of the state Department of Natural Resources, was scheduled to meet Friday to complete a study prepared for it by economic consultants Hammer, Siler, George Associates.

The report indicated the theater could operate at a profit as a center for live entertainment with income from events, concessions, nearby parking and rental of office and retail space in the [illegible]-moresque-style structure.

But the report showed that a philanthropist or organization that would donate the building to a tax-exempt foundation would first have to be found.

The Fox could only be profitable if it had no debt or property taxes to pay, the firm said.

Ticket to Last Picture Show

To view the Master Index of all of Bob Foreman's posts, click here.